

森田季節

Morita Kisetsu

illust. 紅緒

300スライム倒して
年、知らないうちに

2

レベル
MAX

になりました

Average ●25×
365 days×
300 years×
(EXP2+2)=Lv. 99

While Killing Slimes for 300 Years, I Became the MAX Level Unknowingly

—Slime Taoshite 300 Nen, Shiranai Uchi ni Level MAX ni Nattemashita—

- Volume 2 -

**-Author-
Morita Kisetsu**

**-Artist-
Benio**

[Yado Inn]



あ。いらっしやいませー！
喫茶『魔女の家』にようこそ♡



エルフさんの命を救いたければ、このわたくし

魔王。ペゴラと勝負なさい！

FARUFA

SHARUSHA

BEELZEBUB

HARUKARA

LEICA

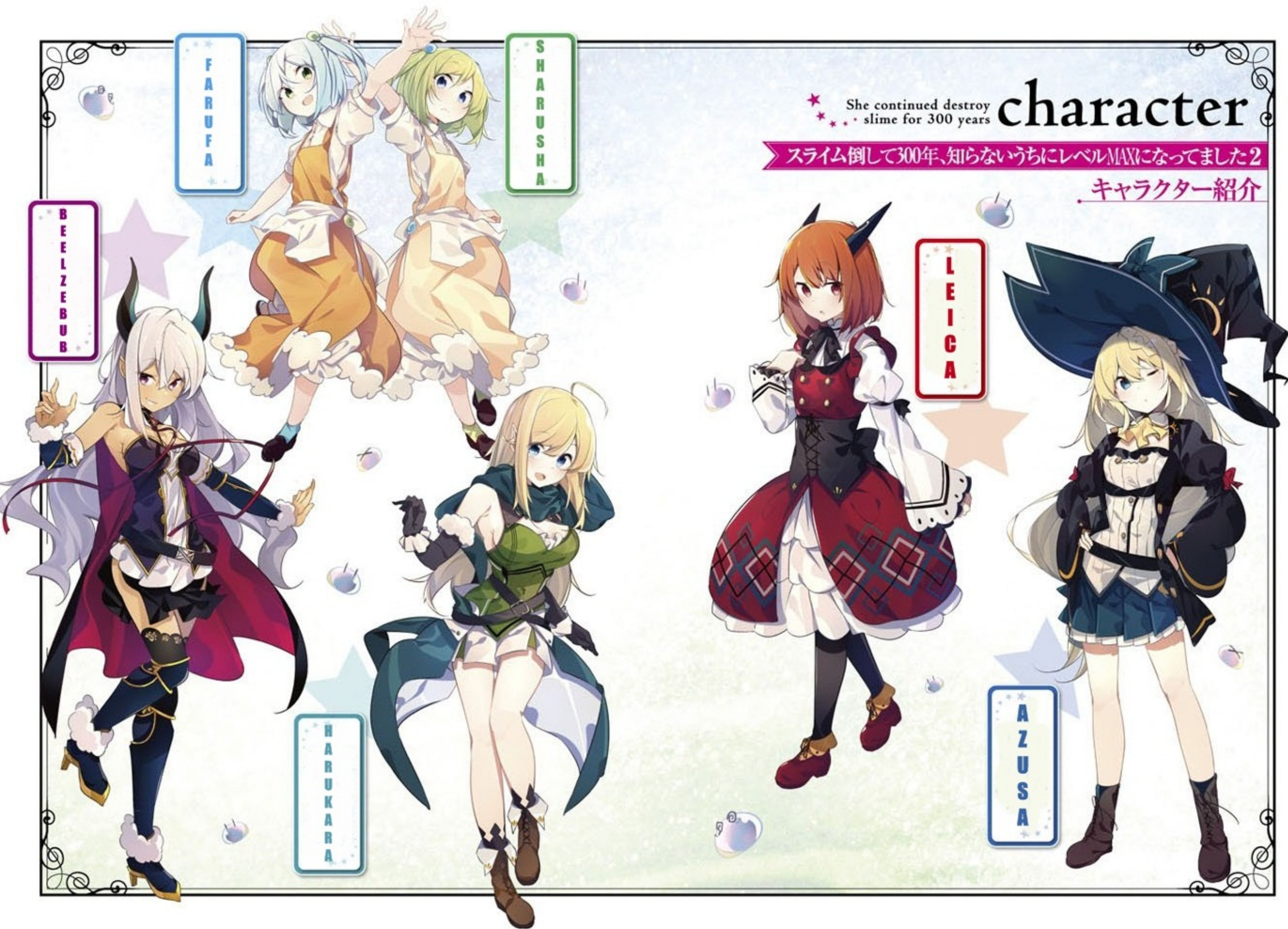
AZUSA

She continued destroy
slime for 300 years

character

スライム倒して300年、知らないうちにレベルMAXになってました2

キャラクター紹介



[Dragon Marriage Arc]

Chapter 30

Lecia Tried to Think About Love

“Fa~a. Good morning, Leica.”

When I left my room to go to the dining room, everyone had already gathered. Leica was in the kitchen preparing breakfast.

“Good morning, Master. It’s rare for Master to be this relaxed.”

“Harukara, morning. Well, there’s also days like this.”

“No way, I spent the night with Leica without sleeping...”

“You, you have some intensity about you... buying a new grimoire, getting absorbed, and reading all night. My daughters are here so be more careful with your language.”

“Yes, sorry, Master...”

It’s good that it seems like you’re reflecting honestly.

“But I’m still young. So, how can I put this? I’m still looking for romance. It doesn’t even have to be my own romance, I just want someone’s romance around me!”

Harukara complained while eating.

“By the way, when you said young, how old are you?”

“S-seventeen years old... and two thousand five hundred months.”

“Two hundred years old, and plenty over.”

Although I, who has lived for three hundred years, should not be saying that.

“No, elves are in their prime at this age! Let’s set aside the talk about age for now. Don’t we have any like... romance to talk about!?”

“To be blunt, no.”

In my three hundred years, I have never experienced the thing called love. Not at all.

“Well then, what about Farufa-chan and Sharusha-chan? Have they not fallen in love?”

“Mama, I love you!”

“Sh-Sharusha is also like that...”

The moment my daughters said they loved me, it was priceless. I thought it was good to be alive.

“Ah~, not things like that, but don’t you have experiences like fancying a man? No, well, it’s okay for it to even be a woman in that case.”

“Hey... will you not teach my daughters weird things...?”

“Master, that’s rather counterproductive! On the contrary, if they don’t have too much knowledge concerning love, your daughters may end up getting hurt. If your daughters go by human values, it wouldn’t be strange for you to have grandchildren at the age that they are at right now...”

“Ugghh... That’s a reasonably fair argument...”

Certainly, there is no basis to assert that my daughters cannot like someone in the future.

However, since they have the appearance of ten year-olds... it would be best not to teach them too many unnecessary things...

“Mother, what are you worried about?”

After Sharusha was concerned about me, I responded instantly.

“What is love? I’m thinking about how I should explain it to you two.”

“Love, the most wonderful thing that God has given to mankind. This is what it is theologically.”

“Y-ye~ah, in theory you could say that, but it’s something different from that.”

“In addition, occasionally, when the phenomenon called love occurs, pleasant emotions are born and surface, but those pleasant feelings aren’t love itself. Rather, it’s like a fog which hides the love, and it is necessary to be careful to not be misled by this. That is how it is interpreted in theology.”

Wait a second, aren’t I the one who is being taught the meaning of love?

“In recent prevalent theology, although love is explained by classifying love into four parts: unconditional love from god, familial love, friendship ^[1], and love ^[2], it’s too long so I’ll explain later.”

“Yea... Thanks...”

As expected, love is something complicated. Furthermore, before I was aware, the problem of romantic love was replaced with regular love. I also have hear the talks about the differences between romantic love and affection... it’s becoming more and more incomprehensible.

When an expression of anguish appeared on me, Leica came in holding a plate of food that she had just cooked.

“Here, scrambled eggs with bread. Please be careful so you don’t burn yourself.”

That’s it. Let’s ask Leica about her love experiences as well.

“Hey, Leica, has you ever fallen in lo—-”

“Ah, there is something I need to tell you Azusa-sama.”

Leica, who put down the plates, put her hands together.

“I would like to return to my parents’ home.”

For a moment, I was absentminded.

“E, e, e, e, eh—! What happened?! Are you dissatisfied with your lifestyle?! If you have complaints or troubles, don’t conceal it and tell me! I’ll improve it!”

I thought back to the time of when some of my juniors left the company.

As a superior, I had to advise them to endure it until they found another job at least. But since I died from overworking, in a sense, the juniors' judgments had some foresight... It'd be better to become unemployed than to die from overworking...

It's no good. It'll end up like what had happened in my memories where it was better to quit.

"Leica, as a witch, do I have a problem...? Is my teaching method bad...? Please, tell me!"

"Um... Azusa-sama?! What's the matter?"

"You can't ask me what's the matter! Although I treat you as my disciple, I think of you as part of my family! If you tell me that you're going to leave, of course I'll be upset!"

I am truly indebted to Leica. The first contact for sure was dangerous, but now it's indeed a good memory to embrace.

"Azusa-sama, please settle down for a moment!"

"B-but, I can't "calm down" for this kind of thing... Don't resign as a disciple, Leica!"

"I am not quitting! I am just returning to my parents' home to attend my sister's wedding ceremony!"

"Eh? Wedding...?"

Now that you mention it, when Sharusha went during the attack, Leica said something like that. ^[3]

"That's right. There is a wedding ceremony at Rocko Volcano, where the dragon race lives. It has been decided that my older sister will wed her childhood friend. Incidentally, both are dragons."

Farufa cheerfully said, "Wooow! Congratulations!" It certainly is a joyous occasion...

Sharusha said, "This is a form of love," as though she were enlightened.

Marriage is certainly one of the complete forms of romance.

“I see, please attend. My older sister would also be delighted.”

“Yes. I would like to celebrate the starting a life anew between two people——Oh, how about this?”

It seems like Leica was struck with some idea.

“In that case, if you do not mind, would you like to come to the wedding ceremony with me? I don’t believe that the ceremony will be too crowded. Think of it like going to a festival, or a field trip.”

Footnotes:

Four types of love (愛). This one, “friendship,” is written as 友愛, thus it’s a type of love (in Japanese).

Similar explanation, 恋愛 means just love. For example, girl and guy going out, etc. In the end, basically romantic love.

The “attack” is referring to Beelzebub.

Chapter 31

Heading for the Dragon's Land

"If it's possible, would you like to go to the wedding together? There's no need to worry about the ceremony or those stiff things; it's fine. A dragon's wedding is quite proper, but you should go thinking of it as if it were a festival or trip."

"Farufa wants to go! I want to see the bride!"

My daughters showed their interest before me.

That's right. If it's my disciple's older sister, it'll be fine for me to make an appearance.

"I understand. Then, let's go. It'll take two days at least to get to Rocko Mountain. But if I take into account Farufa and Sharusha's transportation, it'll take at least four days to get there."

"I will become a dragon and bring you there. We will also prepare an inn for you."

Then, it seems the discussion has concluded.

"A dragon's wedding, huh. In that case, I have to dress up... In my hometown, we would wear a dress..."

It seems that Harukara is already thinking about what to wear.

"Well then, I should contact everyone back home about your attendance beforehand. I will return by midday."

"Yes. Please tell them from me."

Thus, it has been decided that the Plateau Witch's entire household would be leaving to attend wedding ceremony.

That day we went to Furata village to get our dresses tailored. My two daughters were really lively about the fact that they would have a dress made. I feel relieved that they

are still childish in this respect.

On one side, Sharusha was constantly considering which one was good while trying on the dress.

“Uum, maybe this one won’t match with my hair color...”

“That’s not true you know. You’re just overthinking it, Sharusha.”

“But, that’s because I don’t know which one will get praised by big sis...”

Well, I think it’s fine if she’s troubled by it; since she’s enjoying it like that.

Harukara was trying the dresses on display as soon as she could.

“Excuse me, Master, could you see if there is something wrong with this?”

A voice was calling me from the fitting room, so I went inside.

“How is it? Did you find one — ah, this one is definitely not good...”

I automatically understood it the moment I saw Harukara, who was wearing a dress that revealed too much cleavage.

“Ah, but I like the color though...”

“It’s because your chest and butt aren’t really hidden...”

“...Ah!!!! This can’t be!! I’ll change the size!”

“Harukara, all the available sizes won’t fit your body, if you try it, it would be too seductive, so just make a new dress from scratch... Or rather, if you tried to attend in such clothing, you’d be banned from entering.”

I wonder if this will make her more conscious about her body.

In the end, I bought four tailored dresses for each of us. Leica went to her hometown to inform them about our participation, so naturally we did not participate today, but in the beginning, the plan was to attend the ceremony itself, so the preparations should be done.

Lecia returned before dinner, and it seems that our invitation to the ceremony was accepted unanimously.

“My family also said that they would like to see if the Plateau Witch would come.”

“I will be troubled if you treat me like some sort of celebrity...”

“Azusa-sama is certainly a celebrity. If you mention the Plateau Witch, I think everyone in the Nanterre Province will know about you.”

I want to say that that’s too exaggerated, but it was to the extent that Harukara, who lived in another province, came to rely on me; so, either way, I have no doubts that it’s likely that I’m well known.

“Although I made a dress and came here, Leica already has a dress, isn’t that right?”

Just to be sure, I asked her. If she doesn’t have one, it would seem like she’s being left out on purpose.”

“Yes, how many?”

“So she has a bunch. She’s definitely a lady. Then, there shouldn’t be a problem with the wedding then.”

“Yes, she’s planning to wear the dress she received as a gift from her elder sister.”

Really, what a pair of high-class sisters.

And soon, the appointed day arrived.

We put on our formal attire and climbed on Lecia’s back, who turned into a dragon.

Thinking about it, I’ve never traveled a great distance on Lecia’s back up till now. Rather, it seems the two have already gotten used to it.

On the other hand, Harukara’s face was green.

“Are you afraid of heights?”

“No, I’m drunk...”

“I don’t think it’s a good idea to get drunk to the point where you start to sway...”

“It’s in my nature. There’s no way around it... I’m not good at anything except when I’m walking with my own feet... I was also on a boat when I ran away, but I was fiercely drunk then too...”

This child suffers from various issues, or rather, various weak points...

“Here, eat the dried mushroom to stop being drunk...”

Mushrooms have various uses, huh...

✂ After this, Harukara, who was nauseated, eventually threw up; and Leica landed in the forest at once.

I patted Harukara’s back. The fact is, my disciple is suffering, so I think I’m doing a good job of supporting her.

“Yeah, yeah. Throw up as much as you can. Then it’ll become easier.”

“Haugh! Ugh! Blech!... Ahh, I feel better now... I am really, really, sorry about how I’ve been behaving...”

“Since you don’t have any masochistic tendencies, just calm down for now.”

My daughters also seem to be enjoying the scenery, and since the timing was just right; let’s have a break.

“It’s the forest~. Sharusha, Sharusha, where are we around~?”

“This is the Mireille Forest. It’s within Nanterre Province, quite relatively low in altitude, so the forest is dense.”

As expected, that kid knows geography well.

“Because a huge monster called the Long Spear Wild Boar lives here, few people visit.”

“Huh, is it that large beast?”

With her voice acting as a signal, I turned around; and without a doubt, a large wild

boar with long horns on its head came along.

Though I thought those horns were hard to live with as is, the horns evidently extended. It seems that its horns actually extend only when it finds its prey.

Thus, I knew immediately that the wild boar was aiming for my daughter.

“Nee-san, Sharusha probably can’t win...”

“Farufa might be quite bad as well...”

I immediately broke into a run towards my daughter.

“Don’t you dare touch my daughter! This idiot! Ah, if it’s a boar, it’s not a horse or a deer... Anyway, don’t come over here!”

I grabbed the horns and flung it right behind us.

It felt like a suplex. ^[1]

The wild boar who was flipped felt extreme danger, and ran away.

“Phew, I guess the situation’s resolved.”

However, a few other wild boars of the same species were approaching.

It seems like we were surrounded.

“Hey, Harukara, are you feeling ok?”

“I-I’d like to breathe in a bit more of the forest’s air...”

“I understand, I understand. Leica, protect my daughters.”

“I understand. Azusa-sama will be f-fine be alone right?”

Leica was smiling. Well, that was the case after all.

It wasn’t to the point where they’d be worried.

I defeated around five Long Spear Wild Boars.

Although I said I defeated them, I did not have a sword or weapon, so I physically beat them to death. Quite a few magic stones appeared; so as expected, there were monsters, not wild animals.

“Master has saved me again. As expected, Master is strong...”

Harukara said with an entranced face, after overcoming her nausea.

“I... wouldn’t mind giving Master a kiss... [puckers lips]...”

“You, in the first place, didn’t you just throw up...?”

Though it was obvious, we did not kiss.

Chapter 32

Dragon Village

After riding the dragon, Leica, we safely arrived at Rocko Volcano.

On what looked like the other side of a mountain where humans would normally not enter, were many dragons that were gathered. You could see it even if you looked at it from afar.

“Amazing! Tons of dragons!”

“They are biologically red dragons. They are not monsters, but classified as the dragon race.”

“If I offend these dragons, I’ll be killed for sure this time...”

I wondered why Harukara assumed that she was going to offend them, but certainly thinking about Harukara’s life so far, it may be just right to have some concerns about such things.

“Since it’s still the initial party, everyone is still in their dragon forms... For now, let’s introduce you to the bride and the groom, and then to my family.”

“I understand. I’ll follow all of Leica’s orders.”

Leica landed when she found open space. We also descended.

To put it bluntly, a dragon’s gender could not be distinguished with a glance.

The dragons’ eyes turned towards Leica.

“Leica-oneesama, how do you do?” ^[1]

“You also have beautiful wings today.”

What! This is like the self-introductions at a salon of an high-class girls’ school. ^[2]

“What you already have from birth is not the issue... What we really need are things we’ve polished since birth.”

Leica said something cool.

“Leica-oneesama is cool as expected today.”

The dragons also thought that Leica was cool... They were all dragons so it felt very surreal, but it was probably normal from the point of view of these dragons.

“Today is my sister’s marriage ceremony, thank you for attending.”

“It’s only natural for us to appear at Leica-oneesama’s older sister’s marriage ceremony.”

“That’s right. I am indebted to Leica-oneesama for the committee. Well then, since you seem busy, that is all for us now. Let’s talk again afterward.”

Then those girls left.

“Excuse me, Azusa-sama. Those girls were the juniors of my school.”

“Ah, I see. School huh...”

“Well, although I call it school, you only study basic things there. The real challenge is to transform into a typical human’s appearance, then going to university is the shortcut.”

“No, it’s intellectually enough though... I sort of understand why Leica is so smart.”

“No, not at all. I cannot hold a candle to Azusa-sama. I only have my diligence.”

Come to think of it, when Leica is in her human form, she looks like a female junior-high school student, so I bet those girls are about the same age as well.

We went and walked between huge dragons. Because Leica was walking in the front, we were at ease, but certainly, walking between the dragons without Leica would be quite scary.

“Everyone is hugeee!”

“Nee-san, calling them huge may be rude.”

It seems that Furafa’s tension has risen, but on the other side, Harukara was always looking downwards while walking.

“If-if I offend these dragons, I’ll die instantly... I’ll become cinders by the flame coming out of their mouths...”

I wondered how negative she was, but I understood that she could not calm herself down due to all these dragons.

The dragons were drinking all over the place, having their meals, but their cups and plates were huge at any rate.

Sliced meat (although I say that, it’s too big for a human), vegetables, etc. were put on top of the plate. The vegetables were comprised of five cabbages that were put together in a bundle. Perhaps, this is the sensation of a mouthful size of mini tomatoes to them.

“Please don’t go near the plates~. Because I’m afraid that you might be eaten all together.”

Leica gave an advance warning. *Yes, I’ll be careful.* As soon as that was said, Harukara went near a plate and screamed “Ahh! No! I’m not food!”.

“Today the dragons inside this village were lined-up, so it’s crowded, but it’s usually a bit more carefree and quiet.”

“Eeh, about how many dragons live here?”

“Around 250?”

“That’s quite a lot...”

“However, usually they live in other mountains. It’s not like everybody is gathered here. Even so, that’s only the number of our kind, so when it comes to the talk of another race, it will change, but...”

“There are various kinds of dragons, aren’t there.”

“Yes, those guys who call themselves dragons presumptuously also ex—- ah perfect, my parents and older sister and her spouse arrived.”

There were four dragons standing.

I understood that the big dragons and small dragons were paired.

Probably the bigger one is the male. By looking at them like that, I could determine the gender of a dragon by its size.

“I have returned just now. This is my master, the Plateau Witch, Azusa-sama. Behind her are her daughters Farufa-sama and Sharusha-sama, and the elf disciple Harukara-sama.”

“I am Leica’s father. I have heard about you. Is my daughter troubling you?”

From them, the biggest dragon spoke.

“No, not at all. I have greatly received her favour... Rather, I am sorry to have intruded.”

“The amount of beings attending my daughter’s marriage ceremony has increased, so how can you be a bother? Hahahaha!”

It seems like I received a warm welcome.

Next, Leica introduced her older dragon sister with, “This is my older sister Leila.” I also said hello and bowed. My daughters and Harukara also bowed.

“My husband has always been my childhood friend, but I met him for the first time in 80 years, then we found a mutual understanding then decided to marry.”

It’s weird for the time span to be for the first time in 80 years, but well it’s probably normal for dragons.

“As expected, everyone is carrying out the ceremony in their dragon form.”

The food costs are enormous, but it probably doesn’t feel out of place usually.

“The first meeting is in dragon form, but the afterparty is conducted in their human forms. If they are oversized, they could not be suited for small things.”

The older sister explained this to me. I see.

“However, it’s good that it’s truly peaceful today.”

Papa dragon muttered.

“Wouldn’t it would be good if it ended peacefully.”

What is with that conspicuous flag statement... [3]

Footnotes

ごきげんよう (gokigenyo) is a phrase often used by high-class rich girls. In stuff like Marimite, the girls always say this line. Basically a high-class version of “how do you do?”

Hehe, another footnote so fast? Yeah. Here a salon isn’t a place hair salon, but more like a place where rich people have tea and uhh rich people activities. Also the past two dialogues, the dragons talking to Leica all were speaking in a way a stereotypical anime/manga/novel rich-girl would.

Please tell me you know what a flag is. If you don’t... well... have you been living under a rock?

Chapter 33

The Dragon's Dispute

“Umm, excuse me... does it not end peacefully...?”

Strictly speaking, I do not want that kind of thing to happen.

“Aah, to tell you the truth, the dragon race lives in several separate clans. We are on bad terms with fellow clans, so there’s also sometimes a situation where they come and disturb us.”

The dragon world is also troublesome.

“Especially since there’s a marriage ceremony, there is also a risk of them coming to ruin it. Well, the possibility of them coming is lower than the chance of rain falling, so don’t mind each and every little thing.”

“I see. It would be good if nothing happened as it is...” [1][1]

“Dear, you have to prepare a meal of a proper size that our human guests can eat,” said the dragon whom I believed was the mother. As expected, it was the smaller dragon.

“Aah, I see... Let them eat the first portion in the mansion for the afterparty.”

The papa dragon walked heavily and clumsily, so we also followed.

He took quite large steps, so we couldn’t help but break into a jog so as not to get separated.

“Excuse me, Azu-sama. My father is not accustomed to living with humans, so he does not know the feeling of walking on foot.”

“No, it’s okay. I only have to rush a bit.”

However, when we were separated from the dragons that were gathered there——

The clear sky suddenly darkened.

After looking up, I screamed.

The sky was covered with countless dragons.

Also, the skin colors of those dragons were somewhat bluer compared to Leica's.

"It's those Blue Dragons. They're eager to wreak havoc!"

Papa dragon shouted.

"Blue Dragon? There's also such a thing..."

"That is correct, guest. The Blue Dragons which reside in the Heinto province are brazen and uncivilized dragons which breathe cold air..."

The dragons in the sky suddenly exhaled white breaths.

The breaths made contact with many trees, freezing them over as if it was midwinter. It definitely appeared to be cold.

"Uwahhh... I'm useless... I want to faint, this is bad for the heart..."

Harukara was spouting negative things.

"It'll be troublesome if you pass out, so please stay awake!"

However, just after I shared that troubling thought, the Blue Dragons slowly began to descend towards the ground.

I think there were about twenty or so?

The Blue Dragon in front, who appeared to be the leader, cried out.

"Today, I heard that you all were holding a wedding ceremony. Because that notion made me feel nauseous, yeah hehehe, you Rokko Volcano red dragons, I came to mess with you!"

Sheesh, he straight up said he was here to bother us... that's not a good reason.

“Getting married at the age of three hundred. I’m single and more than four hundred years old!”

What, that’s prejudiced!

“Furthermore, I offered my hand to a Pearl Dragon at a social gathering twenty years ago and I was turned down! She said, ‘A leader who gets pushed around by the red dragons? Sticking my neck into that mess would be a bit...’

You reap what you sow! [2]

I certainly wouldn’t go out with a man that is easily pushed around. I felt that was unreasonable to admit.

“It’s all because of me!”

He easily admitted it!

“Nevertheless, I will continue to pursue vengeance for being pushed around! The Blue Dragons’ hearts are as cold as ice! Not only the wedding venue, but also the separate forces that are at the volcano’s crater! I’ll freeze those too!”

What an annoying fellow...

“That one’s name is Furattorute. She’s known as the Harassment Queen of the Blue Dragons...”

Papa dragon added in an explanation. This gal is a really troublesome person...

“I have to cease this... If that’s the case, then I have no choice but to go all out...”

Papa dragon seemed to have steeled his resolve. I turned my head as I heard the noisy footsteps of dragons from our side amassing. I understood right away that the large crowd of dragons were about to attack.

Leica turned to face her older sister.

“Sister, it’s dangerous here so please go back together with the groom!”

“It’s our fault that this conflict occurred so we will fight!”

“Leica and I will fight to defend!”

The bride and groom were obviously dragons as well, and they intended to fight. This has become very significant.

On the other hand, I must first think of protecting my daughters that came here along with Harukara.

“I’m afraid, Mama...”

Farufa grabs onto me tightly.

Sharusha, on the other hand, is enduring by grasping the end of my dress.

A slime spirit is no match for a flock of dragons.

For some reason, Harukara was already on the floor on her stomach.

“Why are you on the ground!”

There is no way she has been attacked yet.

“I’m, I’m playing dead. In my grandfather’s dying words he told me to play dead if I ever met a dragon...”

As I was thinking about saying how that is actually more dangerous, a running dragon imprinted the shape of his foot with a thump right next to Harukara. If that was one meter over, she would’ve been stepped on and immediately dead...

“I’ll stop p-playing dead...”

Harukara stood with a pale face.

“Yeah, I think that’s a good idea.”

“Guests should take refuge someplace safe. This is a dispute between fellow dragons. We will settle this ourselves!”

Immediately following that, papa dragon plunged towards the blue dragons.

However, where is there a secure place...?

The cold breath also came flying towards us.

Watch out! I summoned flame magic from my right hand and released it.

The flame and cold air collided, canceling each other out. As a result, we managed to get away with the air temporarily getting colder.

“Mama, that’s amazing! But, I’m scared...”

“Mother, we’re right in the middle of the battlefield, we should be getting away from here...”

I guess I should follow Sharusha’s suggestion here.

Chapter 34

The Plateau Witch Lost Her Temper

The battle between the dragons had become fierce. They exhaled at each other, hands and tails clashing, giving each other physical damage. They both have large bodies, so for some reason, it had a sort of mudslinging atmosphere, but the destructive power was incredible.

I gripped the hands of my two daughters and attempted to leave the heart of the battleground slowly. If I was alone, I could provide assistance, but a direct hit from a cold breath like that last one would become a matter of life or death for my daughters and Harukara.

Occasionally, cold breaths that resemble stray bullets came too close, so I negated it by emitting flames.

“It’s not like they’re seriously trying to devour each other, but it’s more like harassment. Nevertheless, because dragons are doing it, the scale is massive. If a normal human entered, they’d normally die.”

“Ah... I, am already useless... my legs are shaking and aren’t able to move...”

“If you can’t move, you’ll die. Even if you have to force yourself, walk.”

“I-I understand...”

Harukara was on the verge of tears, but she had no choice but to endure it.

Well then, even though I said to go somewhere safe... for now it’s better to move back, rather than going ahead.

Nonetheless, the Blue Dragons were plunging in from the direction of the party venue. Because the opponents could fly in the sky, it’s only natural that they could go around from the back.

The party dishes were toppled over and trampled on.

No~ this is getting quite irritating. It's not like I don't understand the feeling of being envious of someone else's happiness. Only a saint wouldn't harbor such feelings. However, I couldn't allow them to actually destroy that happiness.

I wanted to yell out that they shouldn't joke around. Furthermore, it made me want to participate.

However, protecting the civilians comes first. It's wasn't time to tread into that world of blood and violence. I began a slow and deliberate evacuation strategy.

Leica, the bride, and the groom fought while spitting out flames.

Being the case that she came and confidently challenged me to a match, Leica was putting up a good fight.

She was probably the strongest among the Red Dragons. Although female dragons are smaller in stature than the male dragons, Leica was pretty much holding her own against two male dragons.

"My disciple, you're properly doing it."

There was quite a bit of movement coming from the direction of the grove that wasn't damaged yet.

"Farufa, Sharusha, if it's here, you should be okay for now, so please wait a bit. Mother will definitely save you."

"Ok, Farufa will endure..."

"What a good girl, Farufa."

Farufa seems like she wants to cry, but she's frantically enduring it.

"Mother, I'm sorry for making you worry..."

"Sharusha, it's strange to apologize. You did nothing wrong, right? You don't have to apologize for something that's not your fault."

Sharusha is sometimes a little bit too serious. However, it's more important that she's saved now.

Harukara was mumbling for some reason, reciting something that resembled a weird sutra.

“Harukara, what’s that?”

“It’s a good luck charm handed down by the elves... It’s something that will make you absolutely safe from being attacked by beasts in the middle of the forest. According to my grandfather’s story, none of the people who recited it were attacked.”

Wow. This is kind of a flag...

A Blue Dragon landed and stood right in front of us.

In addition, this was an especially big one to boot. Its gaze looked sharp, and furthermore, cold.

“You people are comrades of the Red Dragons of Rocko Volcano, aren’t you?”

“So what if we are?”

“I’ll tear off one of each of your legs here and now. If you guys were to be hurt, the Red Dragons’ wedding ceremony will finally be ruined.”

Those words were an annoyance.

“My apologies, but you must receive a serious inj-”

“You, in order to harass them, you plan on scaring these little girls (even though they are fifty years old)? You’re still thinking like that at your age? How long have you lived your good-for-nothing life? What are you even living for? Who could stick their chest out and say that they scared a little girl?!”

I don’t often get passionate, but this might be the first time in a while that I’ve lost my temper.

“Er, but the whole reason why we came all the way to this distant mountain-”

“What kind of, what sort of unacceptable reason is that!”



As I quickly approached the dragon, I raised my leg without paying any concern for my dress and kicked.

THUD

The dragon cringed in obvious pain.

But that sure as hell wasn't enough to settle this. That's because this guy declared that he was going to hurt my daughters. As a mother, I can never allow this to happen.

This time I punched with my right hand.

"I-it hurts... wh-what is this woman... what sort of trick is this...?"

Trick? There's no such thing. It's because I'm level 99.

I floated up to the dragon's face via levitation, aimed at its head, and then unleashed a barrage of kicks, ending with an uppercut at the side of the snout.

Apparently, I had given the dragon a concussion, and it collapsed on the ground.

For the time being, the civilians have been successfully rescued from danger.

The dragon was out cold and drooling, so it shouldn't be able to fight for a while.

"Mama, so strong! Wooooow!"

"I admire you, Mom..."

"Thanks, you two. Mother is getting even more pumped up from your support!"

I took a moment to think.

There were no more enemy dragons were coming from the direction of the grove.

Which means, so long as I subjugated every dragon on this side, no harm would befall my daughters.

Well then, it's time to let loose.

If the enemy is here for harassment, I would crush them with no regrets.

I'd leave them something to mourn over for the next one or two hundred years. Payback, for angering the Plateau Witch.

"Harukara, take Farufa and Sharusha, and go hide somewhere."

"Y-yes ma'am! Uh, are you going out there, Master...?"

"Don't worry, I won't allow a single enemy dragon to reach this place."

I grabbed the collapsed dragon by the tail.

It wasn't impossible for this guy to wake up, so I decided to bring him with me.

Dragging the dragon behind me, I charged toward the battlefield.

Chapter 35

The Power of the Angry Witch

I ran by foot. Within that time, the tumult grew louder.

It was only natural because it was a dragon's battle. It wasn't a size where one could hide.

When I forced a dragon to the appropriate place, I closed the distance with levitation.

"I'll finish off all the blue ones!"

When aiming at a dragon's face, it's easy to defeat. I just learned that at first.

I briskly launched flame magic towards the dragon's face.

"Uwaa!" "Kyaa!"

The screams increased. Even humans would flinch when their faces are being aimed at. I'm sorry, but I will not forgive you.

With this, I accomplished the first attack. Instead of a greeting, I shot fire.

There is also one that throws a cold breath, but that's a stupid way of thinking. Anyhow, this one here is releasing flames, so it's given that they would offset each other.

Thinking that a human's flame magic is nothing is a big mistake.

I decided to rely on one finishing blow. I had considered using Lightning Magic, but it was extremely difficult to adjust its power. I believe that killing is going too far, so I want to stop just before that.

It's basically just hitting the face. With this, I aim for a KO. It's an intelligent creature, so if you strike the skull where the brain is, it should cause something like paralysis and the creature would lose its ability to move. In addition, I'll use hit-and-run tactics.

Three bodies began to fall within a blink of an eye.

Should I also use Wind Magic this time?

It is possible to launch a tornado directly below by soaring over a dragon.

I hit two of them with the gust, and they slammed into the ground at full force.

“Azusa-sama! Thank you very much!”

I heard Leica’s voice from behind. Leica was flying in the sky with her wings while fighting in the air.

“These guys pissed me off, so I decided to give them a beating. I won’t be satisfied unless I rake them over coals!”

While talking, I struck another dragon again. I punished them by striking with my fists.

It’s true that hitting them hurt for me too, but it’s not that bad. Even if it is painful, I more or less put up with it. This is a battle.

“Leica, hurry and finish up, then quickly go towards the volcano or else it’ll be bad. It seems that they’re also attacking that way!”

“I understand! With Azusa-sama’s great efforts, we have the upper hand over here! If it stays like this, we will win!”

Come to think of it, during the battle, the number of Blue Dragons decreased. I took down quite a few myself. I think I defeated a third of them. Well, things should work out now even if I only defeated that many.

Afterwards, when continuing the Blue Dragon search-and-destroy operation——

“You, what on earth are you?”

The Blue Dragon flying in the sky asked with suspicion.

Ah, this guy is the opposite side’s supreme commander.

“Err, are you Furafuratte?”

“It’s Furattorute! You, what kind of human are you? How did a human gain victory over a dragon with physics!”

Because she was curious, I answered.

“Rome wasn’t built in a day, was it?”

“What is Rome!”

Ah, that’s right, she doesn’t know a city like Rome.

“It’s an old city. Anyhow, if you build up steadily, one way or another even a punch can succeed. I mean, that’s true even in-game right?”

“What is a game!? You’ve been continuously saying things that don’t make sense!” [2]

Somehow after battling, the remembrance of my past life’s memories has become strong.

Now then, let’s end the chit-chat here. It’s already time.

Well, I’d like to fight the boss coolly if I’m going to defeat her.

I purposely turned my back on Furattorute.

“I will not let you escape! Since you sold a fight, I will gain victory!”

Like I would run away. Rather, I will not let you get away.

I pointed my hand that was on my side and awakened the wind.

With this, I was launched forward.

Riding that force—I roundhouse kicked the opponent’s septum! [3]

Crash!

It was completely decided! However, since it was the supreme commander after all, she would not be defeated with only this.

“Damn! I’ll freeze you solid!”

Good grief, he that knows little often repeats it. Is that all you can do?

I fired off flames with all my power towards the enemy.

The flames enveloped the cold breath, ^[4] and continued unabated onto Furattorute’s face.

“Hot! It’s hot! I’m getting burned!”

It’s because you were bad!

When I soared above Farattorute’s overhead—— I swooped down with one go.

“Witch’s Heel Stamp!”

My heel mercilessly sank into her head.

“I... the...”

Furattorute crashed to the ground with a thud.

“It’s my win.”

Defeating the supreme commander became an opportunity. The remaining Blue Dragons left in fear as they flew away.

“Well well, having gained complete control, it seems like there are no more problems to think about.”

I slowly descended and stood on the ground.

Although it may be a dragon, it was nothing special. Instead, the opponent was large and I was smaller, so it was easy to defeat. I could strike the opponent’s weak points by precisely aiming at them.

“Azusa-sama, you are truly a jack of all trades!”

Leica came over with empty hands.

“Well, this time, it felt like helping another person, or perhaps should I say self-reliance.”

“Azusa-sama, could you ride on my hand for a moment?”

Leica’s large hand—it would be a foreleg for animals, but dragons are higher level animals, so they call it hands as well—was held out in front of me. I meekly complied with my disciple’s request.

While I rode on her hands, Leica raised her hands and placed them in front of everyone. Somehow, that made me feel like a hamster.

“Everyone! Azusa-sama is present! This is the power of the Plateau Witch!”

I see, it’s something like a hero’s interview on the interview platform.

“I was watching, but it was really amazing!”

“Plateau Witch, banzai!”

“As expected of the world’s strongest creature!”

There’s nothing girlish-sounding about The World’s Strongest Being so I wish you would quit calling me that already... But for the time being, thank you very much!

However, it’s too early for the grand finale. The battle is not over.

“This time we need to go to the crater of Rocko Volcano. If they steal it, it will be troublesome.”

“You’re right... There are quite a few tourists there, and there is also the fear of innocent people getting hurt... Furthermore, today is the wedding ceremony, so there are not many dragons left over there...”

If that’s the case, we need to hurry.

Chapter 36

Go to the Crater

“Leica, please take me up to the crater!”

If the damage on the side of the crater increased, the wedding ceremony will become even worse.

To put it another way, if we hold back the damage over there, continuing the ceremony is possible. Also, if we gain victory in this dispute, perhaps the mood will be ‘all’s well that ends well’.

“I understand! Please ride on me.”

Leica gently held onto me, then I rode on her back as it is.

“Then, let’s go! The other dragons and people who can fight, please follow me!”

Leica led the vanguard, and took off.

This was the fastest speed yet.

Looking behind, there were around five dragons.

For now, I guess this guy is okay.

The volcano did not release strong fumes, but even so, entering a volcano required considerable courage.

“Inside the Rocko Volcano, there is a huge cave where many dragons reside. It is not rare for humans related to the dragons to travel here.”

Certainly, after entering inside, I saw something resembling a human town.

“Tourist, government officials, etc. meet up from time to time like that forming something similar to a town, so we deal with them with our human appearances.

There are also dragons who live their lives regularly with their human appearances, but.”

“I see. However, at first glance, there’s no presence of battles happening...”

As we rapidly approached the town in the middle of the crater, there was no stormy situation to be seen, and dragons fighting could not be seen.

“Eh...? That’s strange... Perhaps, maybe they’re already totally annihilated...”

Raika spoke of the worst possible scenario.

That is too awful. One way or another, I hope everyone is safe...

Leica landed in the outskirts of the village. I also got off of Leica.

Leica also turned into her girl appearance, then we explored the town together.

There was practically no great difference to that of a human town. Two storied buildings made of stone or brick, lined up on both sides of the main street.

“It’s awfully qu~iet though.”

“I also feel that way, but this might be due to many dragons participating at the marriage ceremony.”

It was quite an unexpected development.

The fierce battle was supposed to unfold here, but it was too quiet. The buildings also don’t appear to be destroyed either.

While feeling restless, we proceeded into the interior of the town.

“My older sister’s marriage ceremony, I want to do something nice... I want it to be successful...”

I heard the subdued grumbling from Leica.

“It’s okay. After everything is safely and properly over, older sister’s marriage ceremony will continue.”

I put my hand on Leica's back. I hope I gave a little peace of mind.

Then, suddenly I heard something that was not familiar.

"Uu... guu... uuu..."

What is this? Groaning?

It seems like, similar to a dragon's though...

While experiencing anxiety, we advanced, and were confronted with an astonishing scene.

Five blue dragons covered the plaza.

There was some sort of circular formation radiating underneath the plaza.

"This is more or less, can be said to be our victory...?"

An answer came out from the one's related to the true identity of the groaning. An anguished voice came up from the dragons.

"It's seems so, but it is a magic not often seen... I wonder who used it..."

It seems that Leica did not understand as well. Even from my view, I don't feel that it isn't a very popular magic.

"Is it a spell system where it binds the enemy I wonder? No, that's wrong. Rather, this absorbs the power, then weakening to the point where they cannot move... It's quite a vulgar system..."

When I did an on-site-investigation, there my acquaintance made an appearance.

"What, it's you people, what a coincidence to meet in such a place."

Turning my head to the direction of the voice, Beelzebub stood there.

"Eh... It really is an unexpected meaning, but why are you in such a place...?"

"That's because this is a tourist attraction. A good hot spring gushes forth at this crater.

Once in awhile, I come here to slowly sooth my body from fatigue.”

A hot spring trip... Because of that, Beelzebub’s reason for being here was explained adequately, but.

“Um, what happened to those dragons?”

“Because they were noisy, I punished them.”

Beelzebub said that like it was nothing.

“When I was strolling through the town, these dragons appeared. They swept away the tourists, lowering the value of the sightseeing spot, and started talking foolish things. Therefore, I came out, and then carried out an extermination.”

Beelzebub picked up a pebble, then carelessly threw it at the dragons who could not move.

“This is a magic that causes extreme weakness. It’s only handed down within the demons, so you guys might not know of it. Though this way, this is the just a way to lock up the criminals.”

“These five blue dragons, you defeated them by yourself!?”

Leica asked curiously.

“Huh? As if those five dragons would delay me in any way. One example is their cold breath, I am the one who breathes a more intense cold. I am a high level demon who has lived for three thousand years you know. I was surely not going to be defeated. Good grief, do not insult me.”

After that, Beelzebub face turned red, then her facial expression turned sullen.

“Azusa, you too, even though you beat me with a cheap move last time, you thought that I was together with those small fries right? Next time we fight fair and square, you do not know what is going to happen! Because I am strong!”

“Ah, that’s trivial right now though.”

“Wait, wait! It is not trivial! It is a very important thing!”

I approached Beelzebub, then tightly hugged her.

“Thank you! Thanks to you the red dragon crisis has been avoided!”

“Wow! Don’t cling! Are you not embarrassed! Besides, I did not do it for you people, but because of these shabby dragons getting cocky, I tied them up!”

“Huh. Beelzebub, you have a good smell as if you got out of the bath.”

“That is because in reality I did get out of the bath—wait, that’s something trivial, so let go!”

Today, I understood that.

Dragons are inferior to Beelzebub.

Chapter 37

Post War Treatment

The fact that the crater town was safe was immediately reported to the wedding venue.

Thus, the dispute concluded without problems.

As for me, I returned towards the direction of my daughter and Harukara.

“I was scared, Mama—!”

“Kaa-san thanks for coming.”

“I thought I had to carve my will on a tree...”

My daughters, then even Harukara, came to hug me. Harukara had no place to embrace, so she forcibly reached out her hands behind me. but.

“Because Master did not easily come back, I was certain that you fell into someone’s hands and was seriously worried... That worry also infected Farfua-chan and Sharusha-chan... we suffered a heartache...”

Oops, I returned too late so that that problem also happened.

“Sorry, by all means, I did not have the time to turn back.”

“Mom’s side was more serious, so it’s fine.”

“Because Mama returned, I forgot my sadness—!”

I tightly squeezed my two daughters many times over and over.

Thanks to a certain person dealing with it afterward, it was settled comparatively quickly.

Beelzebub with Weakness Magic to get rid of the movement of the blue dragons who came from attacking the wedding venue.

With this, the risk of the enemy beginning to act violently once again has disappeared.

“Good grief, why do I, the customer taking the bath, have to do these kinds of odd jobs.”

Beelzebub complained so, but in the end, all members lost their ability to move.

“Thank you. With this, the reason for uneasiness is gone.”

“Good grief, if you ask without holding back, it is shameful to refuse.”

Little by little, I’m starting to understand how to deal with Beelzebub, but this person is the type where they cannot refuse if you ask... This representation has become a boomerang and feels like it will return back to me though.

With this, I want to say that the marriage ceremony is restarted, but before that, an absolutely necessary thing is still left.

“Well, I’ll have you guys pay the debt now.”

I was smiling, but I am truly angry at this time’s matter. There are good and bad things in the world.

“Furafurataruto, make it easy for you to talk. Go into your human form.” [1]

“It’s Furattorute! Remember my name properly!”

“Turn into your human form. Then I’ll talk to you.”

Unwillingly Furattorute turned into her human form.

It was a form of a person, but besides her horns, she even had a dragon tail, which grew from her back.

Her garments were quite a pretty pink dress, with long, purple hair.

However, the Weakness Magic was effective, so her body stuck to the ground as it is.

“This is good right... What is your goal...?”

Let's ask Leica to do the negotiations itself.

“First, the reparations concerning this time's dispute, you'll pay this amount.”

Leica, who was in her human appearance, showed Furattorete a piece of paper.

“Uwah... Y-you're taking that much money... That is higher than the cost of the wedding ceremony isn't it...?”

“Mental suffering fees and consultation fees for injured people. It's given that it would be this much. If you do disagree, are you going to stay here not able to move forever?”

“T-that is almost troublesome...”

The losing side has no qualifications left to say any complaints.

“I understand... I will accept those conditions...”

Alright, negotiations are completed. However, since we have the occasion, let's talk one more time. Right now we have the perfect third party.

I pulled Beelzebub, then went to in front of Furattorute.

“Here, in addition to reparations, I want you to sign a treaty though.”

“A treaty...?”

“That's right. A non-aggression pact between the blue dragons and the red dragons. Of course, things like harassment attacks are out of the question.”

“N-no way... I'll lose my raison d'être...”

It might be foul play for a human who does not desire marriage to say this, but I think that's why you haven't been able to get married.

“If you do not sign, you won't be able to return to your hometown for life you know?”

I told Furattorute with a grin.

“Three days without going home, doesn’t it feel like saying that you’re staying at your workplace?”

“Hii! Your smile is scary!”

“If that’s the case, sign. Okay?”

“I understand... I’ll sign! I’ll sign! Therefore forgive me...”

“Azusa-sama... were you thinking about this...”

Oh right, I have not yet told Leica this plan.

“With this, Rocko Mountain will be peaceful.”

“Thank you very much!”

Leica thankful to a very great extent. Thanks to that, my mood slightly became better.

The agreement was peacefully concluded between Leica and Furattorute. Leica was in the position to represent the red dragons since she is a top level dragon in terms of power.

I repeatedly poked Beelzebub.

“Please. Do it well.”

“I know... It’s fine if I say it right?”

After Beelzebub dryly coughed,

“In conclusion, this treaty’s agreement has certainly been witnessed by me and Azusa the Plateau Witch. If this treaty is broken, that will sully me and the Plateau Witch. Understand it well.”

Furattorute face turned pale.

“There’s no way to defeat the Plateau Witch and Lord of Flies...”

“That’s natural. I could exterminate you blue dragons in five minutes. If you don’t like

it, live your life seriously.”

Furattorute was greatly perplexed.

“I should not have done this...”

Thus, the postwar treatment has been safely resolved completely.

The injured blue dragons unsteadily went home; until they pay their reparations, only Furattorute was left behind as a hostage.

“Beelzebub, thank you again. They found a good common ground.”

It was unexpected that the blue dragons would even pick a fight with Beelzebub.

“Only someone like you would dare to work the Lord of the Flies so hard. Make up for it by inviting me to something fun.”

“Sure, then, if there’s an event, I’ll call you. I don’t know how to call you though.”

“There’s Communication Magic. If you don’t know, I’ll teach you later.”

Beelzebub, in the end, is a good person.

“I’ll rely on you in the future!”

Because I was always relied on, I feel relieved to have a person to rely on. Taking the opportunity, I hugged her once again.

“You don’t have to grab me so many times!”

After all of that, it’s time to continue the marriage ceremony.

Chapter 38

Resumption of the Marriage Ceremony

Because the reception was tarnished by the arrival of the blue dragons, what was supposed to be the afterparty became the wedding ceremony.^[1]

Nevertheless, something like the bride and groom giving marriage vows, such a rite doesn't exist in a dragon's wedding ceremony, so it wasn't that big of a problem.

And now, the real afterparty.

Strictly speaking, it's completely different from the first party.

At any rate, everyone came in their dragon form, but are now in their human forms.

The afterparty was held in a large building for the event. Mountains of food were lined up on each round table. Nonetheless, judging from the size of the dragon that I saw during the first meeting, it was sensible.

There the dragon human-like people were lively chatting while eating.

The party was a perfectly normal styled buffet. The amount that everyone ate is not normal though. Even the people who seem to be considerably elderly are eating around five people's worth of food.

We also helped out with the cooking, but since there were so many dishes, before I could grasp a full understanding of all the culinary delicacies, my stomach was inflated.

"Kaa-san, I'm already full..."

Sharusha was the first to go down, so Farufa took her to a chair that was by the wall of the room. It's remarkable that she's properly doing something so big sister like.

Farufa could relatively eat a lot. The amount that the twins can eat are different, so their physiques are also different, but their general appearances seem the same, likely

due to the fact that they are spirits.

Furthermore, Harukara can surprisingly eat a lot.

“Apparently, somehow when I eat, the nourishment goes straight to my breasts and buttocks~” she was saying such a thing.

She did not overeat to such a degree that she would be out of shape, but other parts were exhausted.

“Wow~, this alcohol, it’s toooo strong~ Already drunk...”

After drinking the alcohol, I instantly got drunk. While staggering, I ate some of the dishes, but I could only see the future where I vomited up everything I ate.

“Good grief, other than making ‘Nutritional Alcohol’, that elf has no good points.”

Beelzebub put heaps of spaghetti on a plate, then ate it greedily.

“Demons can eat quite a lot.”

“Eating delicious food, that is the secret to good health.”

I thought that living three thousand years means that health and the like probably had nothing to do with what she said, but it’s unsophisticated to purposely retort.

Also, because Leica is a dragon, she ate the most. It’s an all-you-can-eat buffet, but from what I can see, she has already devoured seven plates worth of food.

“From the viewpoint of a human, it might seem like binge eating” but for Leica, it’s normal, right.^[2]

“Because I fought, I’m getting hungry, so it’s somewhat more than my usual.”

It seems like there’s no concept of a diet in the Dragon race.

Somehow, it seems to be only about meals, but of course there’s another element. At any rate, this is a wedding ceremony.

“Azusa-sama, I will introduce my elder sister’s spouse again.”

The bride and groom in their human forms were a good-looking couple, consisting of a handsome man and a beautiful woman. As was expected of Leica's relative, the bride was quite a looker, and as for the groom, he had the appearance of a chiseled Hollywood Hunk.

"Azusa-sama, Beelzebub-sama, because of the great efforts you two gave this time, you allowed us to continue the ceremony once again. Together with my wife Reira, I express my gratitude."

"Thank you very much. From now on, we, the Red Dragons will also be in your care."

She was so politely giving her gratitude. "No, not at all, I only lent a hand for a bit..."

They immediately bowed their heads.

"You understand your position well. If you adore me so, I shan't be opposed to lending my hand once more next time."

With a hand on the groom's back, Beelzebub took an 'Ahem!' pose.

"You're putting on too much of an air! Modesty, modesty!"

"Why? I am great, so this is nothing bad. This is how I am normally~♪"

Alright, let's use endless flattering from now on for this person.

—And, at that time, the atmosphere changed into a complicated one.

The child who was the supreme commander of the Blue Dragons came. She held a rose in her hand.

"Ah, you're Cocoa Latte!"^[3]

"It's Furattorute! Why can't you remember my name at all!"

That's right, this child was left here in the form of a hostage.

"Um... Reira..."

Furattorute who came before the bride said "Congratulations... I hope you will be

happy from now on..." while averting her eyes.

Afterward, she handed the rose toward Reira.

Oh, this Blue Dragon has a considerably good point, right.

In the beginning, the bride was surprised, but she accepted that rose with a smile.

"Thank you, Furattorute."

"This time, it's my loss. Since I was defeated, I'll obediently give my blessing."^[4]

Apparently, this child's nature isn't a bad dragon at the roots, it seems. On top of holding a connection, I could feel something resembling camaraderie.

"Yeah, since it's not possible for you to get married... I'll attain happiness in your stead."

The bride's words were biting, and complicated.

"What's with that way of talking?! It's not that I can't get married! It's just that there isn't a good man!"

"Really? How many many times have you boasted about finding a good man, or decided on a wonderful engagement... I wonder~"

Perhaps she remembered some embarrassing things, Furattorute's face turned red.

"Humph! I hope you get divorced! I won't send you my congratulations even if you have a child you know-!"

Furattorute escaped by running towards the corner of the venue.

"Somehow, that's a complicated relationship, right Leica..."

"Although the relationship between the Red Dragons and Blue Dragons are as enemies, they aren't mortal enemies, but it's something that just runs deep. Although, this part may not be understood unless you were a dragon, but..."

No, I feel like I have a tiny understanding.

After that, I went to go get the dessert with Leica that I was aiming for since the beginning of the after party.

The egg tart, pudding, cheesecake, and other delectables that were made by the dragons were rumored to be exquisite items. Sweet things have to be eaten properly, as we have a different stomach for sweets (according to a theory, anyway).^[5]

“Oh! A multi-layered deliciousness overflowing in the interior of sweetness, it’s just like a dream!”

Leica and I sat on a vacant seat alongside the wall of the venue.

“Um, Azusa-sama, I’d like to ask you for a favor, but...”

Leica was reserved for some reason.

“Sure, what is it?”

“M-may I please receive a lap pillow...?”

Quite an unusual request came out.

“Actually, a long time ago, I would often receive one from my elder sister...”

Ah, I see. For Leica, her older sister will be taken away with this marriage.

Chapter 39

Calm Family Hot Spring

“Okay. I’ll give you as many lap pillows as you want. Here, lay your head down.”

“Sorry for saying such a strange thing...”

Slightly shy, Leica laid her head on my lap.

“From long ago, I was better than my older sister at exercising, and my fighting was also stronger, but I always felt like sleeping on my older sister’s lap pillow whenever something happened. It was just the right firmness, or rather...”

“I see. So, your older sister already got married, requesting such a thing from the wife is also inexcusable, kind of thing?”

“That’s right... That’s quite close to the answer... desu...”^[1]

Leica answered embarrassedly.

Always living firm and diligently, there’s also times when I want to be spoiled.

“Not as your master, but it’s okay to think of me as your older sister though.”

“No, in the end, this is just an exception...”

“Then, slowly fully enjoy your exception.”

By the way, I have daughters, but no younger sisters. It might be good to think of Leica as my little sister.

For a little time, time passed strangely between Leica and me.

I lived for 300 years. This kind of time where you don’t know how to classify is also good.

—Then, somehow the interior of the hall was noisy.

Looking closely, Harukara was sleeping on the floor of the hall.

What she doing, that child...

Farufa's and Sharusha's were calling out to her, but she doesn't seem to be in a stage to wake up.

"Harukara Onee-san, wake up—!"

"Harukara-san, it's dirty."

"Oui~, I said not to drink my fruit wineeee~ oui~"

It stood out the most in the hall. Certainly stood out more than the bride and groom.

Hey hey, don't embarrass me too much..."

"Good grief, what a troublesome Elf."

After, Beelzebub came along, then put Harukara on her back.

"Let's carry her somewhere where a bed or sofa is located."

That person is really a good person... I wonder if demons are that good of a person to tolerate her?

However, unable to let the conversation end on a high note, Harukara started getting sick.

Harukara's face suddenly turned pale.

"Ough... I feel bad... I'm going to vomit..."

No! Hey! Don't throw up on my back! Absolutely do not throw up!"

Beelzebub also turned quite pale as well.

"Even if you say such a thing, it'll certainly come up..."

“If you throw up, I’ll cut you to pieces, then thoroughly burn your soul!”

“I’ll be k-killed! Ah, not good, not good! Oof, oof—!”

“The toilet! Where is the toilet—!”

In the end, the two of them disappeared into the restroom.

Because Harukara was not killed, she probably made it on time.

At the end of the afterparty, everyone sang the bride and groom a song of blessing to end it.

It was a dragon folk song, and it was quite a cheerful song.

Well, I thought it was a good time to return home, but—

“Since we have the occasion, you should all stay at the inn in the crater.”

Beelzebub said such a thing.

“Eh, come to think of it, there was also a hot springs right?”

“Yea. How should I put it, because there’s a hot spring, come stay with me.”

“Alright, let’s stay overnight!”

When Leica said the whole family wanted to stay overnight, they made arrangements immediately.

I was a hero who resolved the dispute this time, so the hotel charges were free this time.^[2]

Thus, we are currently immersed in the hot springs.

Precisely because there was a volcano, the inn had many open air baths. Furthermore,

a private use room's splendid open air bath was such an extravagant method.

"Farufa is good at breaststroke~!" [3]

"I can only do doggy paddle..."

My two daughters were in quite high spirits in a large bath.

"Hey! Swimming in the bath is not allowed—wait I guess there's no such thing. This is a room bath. It's okay to swim, but don't get dizzy." [4]

"Ye—s!" "Ok."

An understanding reply came, so it's alright.

Everyone not in the children group were immersed carefreely in the hot water.

"For dragons, this kind of bath is not rare, but everyone entering is a fun thing."

Leica was seated on the immediate right of me.

"That's true. It's really good hot water."

I was in high spirits in today's battle, so I'm thankful to wash away my fatigue like this.

Coincidentally, sitting on my left side is Harukara.

"A hot bath is good for sobering up drunkenness~. It feels good~."

"It seems like Harukara has suffered terribly many times, but all's well that ends well, so think about it positively."

"Yes, I understand~. Eh..... it appears that I'm dizzy it seems..."

"The end was not particularly good!"

—And, someone pulled up Harukara from her back, then laid her beside the rock wall.

“Good grief, cool off over there. Because it’s open air, you’ll immediately feel more comfortable.”

As expected of Beelzebub.

“The rooms were supposed to be separate, but it can’t be helped to care about such a thing now. It’s open besides me, feel free.”

“Yes. Allow me to do so.”

Beelzebub settled in the place where Harukara was missing.

“When you people are around me, interesting things happen, so it’s enjoyable.”

“There are plenty of things that make it hard to say it’s fun unconditionally though. However, this time I was saved thanks to you. This town was protected thanks to you Beelzebub.”

“I said it many times, but the blue dragons were suppressed, not for the sake of you guys, but as a hindsight-based opinion. It’s you being selfish to show you thankful feelings.” [5]

“Well, I’ll selfishly thank you. If I asked you, you would still help out.”

“I-I guess so... Leaving that aside, let’s have a one-on-one match.”

“Uh huh, I understand, Onee-chan.”

A strange moment passed.

After I said it, I thought “huh?”

“Why am I an Onee-chan...?”

“No, if I relied on you, you’ll help out one way or another, it’s bothersome, how should I put it, because you’re Onee-chan-like... Onee-chan... pu, pupu...”

After that, I laughed aloud.

“That’s right, that’s right. I have two daughters, Leica is my younger sister, Beelzebub

is my older sister; that kind of family is also good, right.”

I enjoyed a slow life by myself for a long time, but a slow life with my family is also not bad. Rather, it was very good.

“Am I the younger sister... I understand... N-nee-san...”

“Being called this way by Leica is quite strange.”

“It takes a lot to deal with a younger sister. No mistakes made.”

Beelzebub sighed and also agreed.

“Mama, you look very happy!”

“Kaa-san, you have a nice smile.”

My daughters also grasped my happy mood it seems.

“You, however, if that’s the case, aren’t you missing one person...?”

Beelzebub turned her gaze to the back.

“Hahhh~, the night breeze helps you cool off when you’re drunk and dizzyyy...”

Ah, Harukara was still left.

“Harukara is... umm... the troublesome junior...?”

“Master, that’s not it—!”

Everyone except Harukara was laughing hard.

It’s the evidence of a good family when the laughter does not stop.

[Cafe “Witch’s House” Arc]

Chapter 40

Family without Outsiders

Now in a good mood after having refreshed ourselves at the hot springs of Rocko Volcano, we returned home in the plateaus.

“U~n! As expected, returning home feels so nice!”

Come to think of it, I’ve almost never experienced overnight trips, so this new feeling was quite fresh to me.

“Maaamaa, the bride was beautiful, riight!?”

The wedding ceremony had a few hiccups, like the Blue Dragon’s attack. But all in all, it seems my daughter has already rewritten those troubled memories with enjoyable ones; it’s a very good thing.

“That’s right. Leica’s older sister looked very happy, too.”

“If Farufa gets married one day, will Farufa be wearing those sorts of clothing?”

Farufa said innocently — But I, on the other hand, stiffened somewhat. Perhaps a day will indeed come when Farufa gets married and leaves me for a life of her own.

Wait, but maybe since Farufa is a spirit and has had that form for fifty or so years now, it’s possible she’ll never become an adult. Since her appearance will stay that of a child, then perhaps she won’t get married after all?

Damn it! I fear that my daughter will leave me one day It makes me feel lonely...

However, as one would would expect, I’m just fretting over nothing. To admire a wedding ceremony is perfectly natural for a girl. It’d actually be strange if someone with the appearance of a ten year were to declare they wanted to be single their entire life.

“You know, when I get married, I want to live in a lovely red brick house.”

D-does that mean she’s planning on moving out?!
I received another shock.

Fa-Farufa... Even if you do get married, there’s always the option of the married couple moving into their parent’s house... Look, we can expand this house into a two-household residence.”

“Mama... What are you talking about?”

Farufa tilted her head to the side, staring at me blankly.

Sharusha gave me a pat on the back without holding back.

“Sharusha wants to stay beside mother forever... So, I’ve been studying cooking lately; I want mother to eat my delicious cooking.”
Ah, what a good child! She’s so considerate of her mother!

I reflexively pulled Sharusha into a close embrace.
My daughter is too cute. My heart can’t take it!

“Mother, are you happy?”

Sharusha is a cool-headed child whose feelings rarely show on her appearance. But I know that deep down, she’s a very kind-hearted child.

“Yeah, of course. Sharusha’s feelings managed to reach me.”

“It’s not fair for it to only be Sharusha, mama! hug me tightly too! Tightly!
Sharusha came begging while hopping in place. Farufa was honest with her feelings, but her consideration for others was the same as her younger sister, Sharusha.

“Yeah, yeah. Mama isn’t unfair.”

This time, I tightly embraced Farufa.
This might be a supremely blissful time for me.

“Well then, it’s been awhile since it was just the three of us, parent and children, so let’s sleep together.”

“Wa-i! Farufa is happy!”
Sharusha also nodded repeatedly.

To be perfectly frank, I'd be happier sleeping with my daughters than receiving 100,000,000 yen. I would never let the opportunity go.

—Then, I felt something.

It felt like Leica was watching us. When I shifted my attention to her, she immediately turned away, but...

“What’s wrong, Leica?”

“No... It’s... nothing...”

“Should I give Leica a hug as well?”

Like I said back at Rocko Volcano, Leica was like a little sister to me. Her appearance looked like it belonged to a middle school student, so she surely felt like a younger sister.

It seems like Leica is thinking for a while. Ah~ This is where I should be the assertive older sister!

“Good grief. It can’t be helped~.”

I hugged Leica from here.

“Ah, sorry, Azusa-sama.”

“I can stop if you want.”

“No... It’s not... unpleasant...”

In other words, she was holding back. That’s no good.

“Leica, you act too much like an honor student. You have to tell me what you want with your own words.”

“Y-yes... That’s right...”

Being selfish is part of the younger sister role, right?

Leica quietly nodded. In Leica’s case, she’s with our family; since she’s alone, I must fill the older sister position for her.

“Ji~”

And this time, it’s the elf, Harukara, looking over.

“Master, that hug... Please give it to me too!”

Harukara requested while expressively raising her hand.

“Ah~ Harukara...”

Certainly, partiality wouldn't be good, but...

“You don't feel like a daughter or a younger sister...”

Harukara is a two-hundred year old elf, but her appearance is precisely like a girl just crossing into adulthood. Furthermore, her appearance is... um... so sensual... so embracing her might be... a bit too much...

“Eh~, isn't it fine since we are fellow girls? Look, like a tomo-cake.”^[1]

What's that concept similar to tomo-choco...

I have recollection of it from my memories in Japan.

“Back in my hometown, during winter, we would give home-made cakes to the same-sex whom we received a favor from.”

Does this world also have a custom similar to Valentine's Day...?

“Haa, I see, I see. Then, get over here.”

“Ye-s! Thank you, Master!”

Harukara started clinging onto me.

Bounce.

Harukara's breasts pressed against me.

“Huh... I can't get close to you like Leica did... Why?”

This kid sure says whatever's on her mind... I think she needs to be a bit more aware of her breast size, though...

“Would it be possible for me to absorb a portion of that chest size...? I wonder if such a spell exists...”

“What are you saying, Master?”

“Nothing.”

Like this, everyone member of the family got a hug and it ended safely.

That being said, I thought I was going to return to my normal everyday life, but—

“Azusa-sama, I have to prepare dinner soon, but I couldn’t buy enough groceries before travelling, so there aren’t that many ingredients to work with.”

Leica reported so. There were hardly any ingredients, for sure. But even if I go shopping now, there’s a chance the vegetables might already be sold out.

This calls for a special occasion.

“All right. In that case, let’s eat out with the entire family today.”

Chapter 41

Festival Preparation

While walking at a leisurely pace as per usual, we headed for the village

On the way there, however, we decided to do a bit of work.
And by work, I mean wantonly exterminating slimes.

Slimes appear, we kill them; simple as that.

“Everyone, defeat all the slimes you find so we can get their magic stones.”

To even out the cost of five people dining out, we’d have to kill approximately twenty-five slimes. One is worth around two hundred gold. The magic stones we get from them are about two hundred Japanese yen each.

The restaurants and stores in the village are not at all high end, so one person can probably dine out for one thousand gold or so, if you include the costs of drinks, etc. I would like to earn a bit more. It’s not like I’m particularly worried about money, but I might as well spend the money I earn on the same day.

“If it’s a slime we’re talking about, even I can defeat it~”

Harukara, like she was doing some exercise routine, went to strike the slime.

But Farufa stopped her from doing so.

“Big sis Harukara, this is a good slime; defeating it would be a bad thing.”

“Eh, is that so...?”

“That’s right. Those other two slimes are bad, so it’s good if you kill them instead.”

“Umm... This one?”

“Not that one! That’s a good slime!”

“It’s hard to tell them apart...”

I am also not too confident about differentiating between good and bad slimes.

“Harukara-san, slimes with pale colors are bad. Darker colors are good. You should remember it like that.”

“I understand where Sharusha-chan is coming from. It’s hard to distinguish their hue...”

Nevertheless, a decent amount of slimes were exterminated. We were able to beat a total of thirty-eight slimes.

With this, it should be enough to cover the costs of eating at a restaurant.

Also, as we arrived at Futara village, we saw that various places were adorned with decorations.

A colorful cloth was pasted onto the walls. Even the village streets looked decorated.

“Ah, that’s right. It’s almost time for the Dancing Festival.”^[1]

I recalled that event.

The Dancing Festival is a traditional festival held in Furata village. Although I say traditional, there wasn’t any sort of custom back when I first started living near here. Approximately 250 years ago, they established it. I guess, from the sense of a normal person, an event existing over the course of 250 years is considered traditional.

“Azusa-sama, what kind of festival is this?”

Leica has never seen it before, so she wouldn’t know...

“You can freely participate in the village square. The dance isn’t too hard to do, so just try your best to match the music and have fun. Of course, if you don’t want to dance, there’s always the food stands; it’s fun for anyone.”

“I see. It has such folk customs. Quite interesting.”

Originally, it was intended as a harvest offering event to the God of Earth. But the people who organized it for that purpose are long gone.”

Exercising is a good stress-reliever. From dancing all day long, I felt a renewed sense of energy. ‘I’ll do my best again,’ it made me think.

“Ah, isn’t this Miss Witch’s party?”^[2]

The old man who was always selling butter called out to us. He was also working on putting up a colorful cloth on his wall.

“It’s almost time for the festival.”

“Right, it is. Wait, won’t Miss Witch be doing something for the festival as well? Miss Witch’s event would be warmly received. But of course, simply having you visit makes us happy.”

“Ah~ I see. But~, I’ll have to refrain from directly taking part in the festival. If I did, the festival would just end up taking my lead...”

In other words, the independence of this village would be lost.

I am a witch who has lived before this festival’s inception. Such an existence appearing during the festival would likely apprehend people with a fear of speaking out of turn. If that were to happen, the festival would be one where the villagers all conform to the witch’s whims.

Since I don’t want to control the village myself, I stuck to a more neutral, observer stance. All I can do is to dance with the residents and eat from the stalls.

However, the situation is different this time around.

“The festival looks fun! Will another candy stall appear, I wonder!?”

“You can feel the village’s nature from the festival. The research went into the festival is also pretty important, historically.”^[3]

Both Farufa and Sharusha have shown interest. There’s a big gap in where their interests lie, however.

“A festival? I usually sold special drinks at elven festivals for some income. When I put a vegetable drink that curbed hangovers, it sold like hotcakes. Maybe I should see to it doing it again. Because it’s a festival, even if the price mark up is high, it’ll still sell. Huh, this is quite the profitable business opportunity.”

Harukara’s memories of it were impure, but at least it was festive. Also, Leica was gazing at the scenery of the festival preparations.

The size of my family had suddenly increased.

Since I had the occasion, let's revise my relation with this festival.

Serving food as a family would be a high hurdle, nonetheless. And it would certainly eat up a bunch of our time; my family would hardly be able to enjoy the festival like normal. It would be putting the cart before the horse.

I wonder if there's a middle ground.

"Miss Witch, might I remind you there is also a pre-festival. It would be good if you did something then," The old man who sold butter said.

"I guess so. In that case, it wouldn't overlap with my time at the main festival."

Not responding with a direct answer, I instead told them of my favorite restaurant, "Elegant Eagle", and everyone ate an extravagant dinner.

Roasted duck meat is in season and the way they cooked it is perfect. Even me, who isn't one to drink much alcohol, drank. Harukara also drank, albeit excessively.

"Harukara, drinking is well and fine, but don't black out before the wedding ceremony."

"I unconsciously likened this drink to fruit wine. Even I can make a lot of vegetable drinks by myself."^[4]

Harukara, being an elf apothecary, has considerable knowledge concerning that. Even if not for medical use, she could make something suitable.

Then, at that moment, it occurred to me.

"Hey, Harukara, can you really make non-alcoholic drinks? And various types of it as well?"

"Yes, even with just the fruits in the nearby forest. I made several prototypes, and managed to produce a more health-conscious mushroom extract."

Then, it seems like my plan will work.

"Let's do a cafe, "Witch's House", during the pre-festival!"

Chapter 42

Cafe Preparations

“Let’s do a cafe called “Witch’s House” during the pre-festival!”

My family’s gaze is concentrated on me.

“Well? I don’t think it’s a bad idea. Harukara will prepare the drink menu, as for the shop, if we line up desks in the woody area part where Leica added on to the building, there shouldn’t be any problem, and we have five people with just our family, so we should be able to serve customers. Also, since it’s during the pre-festival, we can go sightseeing without any issues on the day of the festival itself.”

The proposal’s merits were being highlighted steadily before them. Nonetheless, I did not think that I would receive resistance.

However, only one person had an indisposed face.

Surprisingly it was Leica.

“Is that so... As far as I’m concerned, you have to wear clothes similar to a waitress serving customers...”

Ah, those clothes that resemble maid clothes. I think it’s particularly fine if you wear casual clothes. Rather, Leica’s clothes regularly have good taste.

“It doesn’t matter if you wear normal clothes, if you are reluctant to serve customers, you can work in the back though? Also, in the first place, we also have the choice to not do it.”

This kind of obligation isn’t a big deal, after all.

“No, I would like to participate please! I think it will be a place where your daughters can study society!”

Leica said something akin to a teacher. As usual, she’s diligent by nature.

“I will endure wearing waitress clothes... Perhaps if I’m busy, I will forget it...”

However, it was a mystery why she hated waitress clothes so much. It she was embarrassed I would understand, but Leica's everyday clothes were black goth loli like clothes. On that occasion, it would be different and stand out from ordinary people still.

Well, because she's fixated on fashion, there's probably a line that can't be crossed.

Like that, our family's participation in the pre-festival has been decided.

After the meal, I informed the village chief, while reporting words to that effect, and he said "Thank you very much!" and was excessively thankful. Somehow, his reaction was as if he received a donation of a hundred million gold for the sake of the village.

Then, the next day.

Striking while the iron was hot, we went to the store that tailored our dress for attending the wedding ceremony before. It was decided that each waitress outfit would be made here.

The clothes were done the next day, so I went to get them.

Since I had the occasion, I decided to have every member within the house to try wearing the finished clothes.

I, well, felt like a very normal reception girl.

Maid cafes are often done in school festivals, but doing something like that makes you feel like a high school girl. It's certainly different from being employed at a pro maid cafe. Simply trying it on once, if perchance a maid cafe pro was there, I think they would say that you don't understand what it's like. There's nobody like that in this world, though.

Subsequently, let's review each other member.

First off, the Farufa and Sharusha pair.

"Does it suit me, Mama?"

"It doesn't fit badly."

They felt like twin children maids, so somehow, it was very splendid. However, letting them serve male guest like this, I'm a bit worried. They're too cute, so if they were looked at with weird eyes, I'll be troubled. After all, they're cute. Ye~ah, they're cute.

I wonder if my gaze was a bit of a doting parent...

Next, Harukara came out of her own room after changing.

“Um, this, should have been measured, but my chest feels tight though...”

Ah, come to think of it, the shopkeeper said, “This way is a bit tight, but there’s impact,”...

I understood, but a big-breasted elf waitress.

“It’ll become indecent with Harukara there. On the contrary, it’s amazing how you can be indecent to this extent by yourself, seriously.”

“Master, is that praise...?”

“I think there will be a demand. However, it’ll be slightly troubling if only those types of customers come... Try walking over there just a little.”

“Just walking? Like this?”

Harukara walks.

Her breasts firmly shake. My goodness, an outrageous sway. That chest is shaking as if it was made out of water.

Even women’s eyes would be attracted towards it. Absolutely, there will be people coming for Harukara.

Then, the last appearance was Leica who was not interested in the beginning.

She said that it would be bad if only she did not wear it, so she properly made clothes, and said she would also be a waitress, but.

Leica came over from her own room.

“Umm, that... are there any strange points...?”

I instinctively restrained my mouth. Furthermore, I crouched down a bit.

“Huh, Azusa-sama? Is something wrong? Did your health take turn for the worse?”

“M-magnificent... it’s a god... there’s a god here...”

This strange reaction was not only mine. Harukara also said, “The Supreme Waitress...,” and was a bit dumbfounded.

Yes, those waitress clothes suited Leica too well.



In the beginning, she let out an atmosphere of a lovely girl who just decided to be in the service industry who tried wearing waitress clothes, and yet the uneasy expression and the decoration of the clothes harmonized, furthermore coquettishly, and her destructive power was terrifying.

Even though she was a girl, she was lovely to the extent I wanted to take this child home.^[1]

“I see... You should wear those frilly clothes on regular basis since it suits you... Or rather, it suits you too well.”

Being praised and complimented, rather than being happy, Leica was clearly embarrassed.

“Actually, a long time ago, I played the waitress role in my dragon school’s play, but at that time also I was also told excessively that it suited me... Because the surroundings also said too much, I got scared a bit, but... This time also had a similar reaction...”

I see. She was not interested because she knew that it suited her too well.

“Leica, it may be embarrassing, but you should do it once. You should highlight your own abilities more.”

I said something like an entertainment producer.

For the time being, the preparations are complete.

No, only the clothes were made, but the cooking was relatively whatever goes.

Even if I buy a table, it’ll be a hindrance after, so I’ll borrow what’s left in the village.

Chapter 43

The Cafe has Many Difficulties in Store

We decided to proceed with the preparation of the cafe “Witch’s House.”

First, was making the menu.

Concerning the drinks, not only did we have the standard herbal tea group, but we were also relying on Harukara’s sense.

“Finally, the chance for me to play an active role has come! Please leave it to me, Master!”

It seemed like she was filled with a strange fighting spirit, so menu ideas certainly kept coming one after another.

Although there were quite a few of them, the majority of them were weird.

“This “Drinking Vitality Medicine ~15 Varieties of Root Blend” one is rejected.”

“Eh! Why! The effect is great and in Furanto Province where I lived, we received reports from the men’s camp that they loved it!”

“The image is not good! At any rate, because we are doing a cafe, choose ones that are more lyrical.”

“Then, how about the next one, “If you drink this every day you’ll get taller within one month! Bone extension natural remedy.”

“Like I said, stop insisting in the direction of practical use! Decide on more normal ones!”

Furthermore, it’s only a one-day shop, so why would it be selling anything that only works “within one month”.

“I think the idea I proposed is more witch-like though...”

It's not that I don't understand Harukara's complaints, but the village people seriously believe I am not a dangerous witch, so I do not need to be serious about being witch-like.

"Then, we'll do the safe option of fruit juice. Mixing the wild grapes that grow in this region with honey dissolved in water, it'll be quite refreshing, and the aftertaste is also a good thing."

"Bring up that kind of thing from the beginning."

In that case, we could accept it without complaint. Rather, there are no unacceptable elements.

"I mean, where's the fun in that~."

"Please stop going for what's fun. You're not the main gag." [1]

Certainly, in Tokyo's Akihabara, there is a cafe with the setting that the serving girls are reincarnated Warring States military commanders, but that kind of eccentricity is not needed right now. By the way, in spite of the premise that they were reincarnated, some of the waitresses weren't very familiar with the Warring States period. [2]

"If something like this is good, I can come up with around 50 items in one day."

"Are you a genius? Then, we're already fine on drinks. Originally, I was not this worried though."

"A~h, at least, I wanted to make the "You thought it was sweet, but it was extremely hot! 30 Variety Spice Combination"~."

The number of people who love weird things like that are limited no matter which world you're in.

Next was the food menu, but this too was harder than I thought. As expected, it was necessary to confirm everything beforehand.

When I found a fault in Harukara's menu, Leica came holding a yellow object piled up high on a plate.

“Azusa-sama, I thought about this plan where if you can eat this super-gigantic omelette within 30 minutes, it’d be free, how is it?”

“Let’s not do such a challenge system! Because it’s our first time, let’s go with very normal! No plans with special conditions attached!

I wonder if binge eating plans were universal? It seems like anyone can think of it though.

“To tell you the truth, there’s also one more secret measure!”

Leica went to the kitchen, then came holding another plate.

“How about a novel work where the sweet cream is placed on top of this boiled pasta? Matching sweet food that is considered to not suited for pasta, how about trying a challenge where things like confections are placed on top.”

“I value that challenging spirit, but it’s fine to not implement it!”

Stores like this surely existed in Japan!

“Well you see, Leica, you don’t have to deliberately try to stand out just because it’s a store! Your usual cooking is tasty, so it’s okay be a bit more faithful to the basics!”

“I see... as for me, since we’re taking their money, I was thinking we need to give them something of equal value in return, a lasting memory...”

Leica was feeling despondent. I probably said too much. However, it is related to the direction the store will take, so compromising on that would be bad... Because Leica is serious, I must stop Leica from placing sweet cream on top of pasta.

However, there were more problem children.

There was a sound of the door opening with a bang. Farufa came running in, so apparently, she had been outside.

“Mama! I caught a large grasshopper!”

Indeed, it was a big one the size of the palm of one’s hand.

“Oh, it’s big–”

“Hey, if this grasshopper is cooked, I wonder what kind of flavor it will have? Is it okay if we serve it in the store?”

“Bad.”

I do not have the motivation to do insect cooking.

There Sharusha brought a bulky book here.

“According to this book, there are places to go insect-eating within foreign countries, and it said that the grasshopper family is especially popular. However, there are also concerns such as the legs needing to be removed or they could get caught in your throat or digestive tract and cause a serious situation.”

“I do not feel like denying another place’s culture, but we will not serve it here!”

If you think about an insect cooking store, as expected it’s straying from the concept.

“Farufa too, let’s return grasshopper-san back outside. Perhaps, it might have been planning to play with its friends.”

“Ok~ay! I understand—.”

Again, Farufa went outside.

Everybody, don’t attempt to think up stranger things than you imagined. Are you thinking that it’s no good unless we make interesting things? I think it would be enough if we made a very natural cafe to calm down, but...

It can’t be helped, so it has been determined that I would influence a few things.

First, a portion of the seats will be taken out and made as terrace seats. The number of amount of seats will also increase, and because this house is on the plateau’s high ground, the air is also delicious. Occasionally, the blowing wind will feel good.

Customers that only request from the drink menu will also receive a small plate with a sampling of cookies. Such a feeling should make the customers comfortable. Whenever I ordered coffee during my corporate slave era, when a tiny pastry was

served, I was a little bit happy.

If it is crowded and one doesn't feel like staying, I think it's the cafe putting the cart before the horse, so since it's a temporary store, it was decided for the number of seats to be somewhat larger in quantity.

The menu is centered around vegetable cooking. Adding on the slight wonderfulness of home flavor.

For these reasons, I think I can put on some ideas to some extent.

"Master, you were this serious..."

Then, Harukara was slightly drawn back and astonished.

"I, was thinking of something more... playful..."

"Why, after all this trouble, do you still insist on being playful."

"No, for example, saying something like, "Welcome, Master," to the customers."

Could it be that Harukara and Leica were both also Japanese reincarnators...?

Chapter 44

The Penalty for Lining Up Overnight

As the festival rapidly approached, the days passed by quickly, and the day had finally arrived for the opening of the cafe “Witch’s House”.

After eating breakfast, we all changed into our uniforms.

“S-somehow, it’s a spectacle to see all of us line up wearing the same clothes...”

Leica said so with feelings of half embarrassment and half exhilaration. Similarly, I felt the same way as well.

“Looking out the window, it doesn’t seem to be raining, so let’s begin our final preparations. Leica and Harukara prepare food and drink respectively, while Farufa and Sharusha wipe the tables and check the floor for dust. I’ll take out the cafe terrace seats.”

The chairs were placed under the eaves of the roof in order to avoid the trouble of them getting wet in the event that it rained.

Everyone nodded their head in agreement, so it looked like there were no problems.

“Presently, it has just turned around 8 a.m., so there are two hours left until we open. Let’s do this properly.”

This time Leica and Farufa both replied with, “Okay!” “OKKK!”, respectively.

“But, I’m getting nervous... If, if no customers come, what shall we do...?”

Harukara was a pessimist due to her having tragic experiences often in her life.

“There is quite a distance to the village from here. Even the village will have a pre-festival, they might be indifferent about coming all the way out here and decide to pass...”

Certainly, it wasn't like there was no risk of that.

"It's not like I don't u-understand your feelings, but... let's do what we can... I wonder how to say this... there's significance in participating."

"Right... If nothing is sold at all, let's put the drinks in a basket to sell it at the festival tomorrow."

As a workshop manager, I had a resolute commercial spirit.

"Then, let's go to work. You already know the shifts. Alright then, dismissed!"

Since I worked outside, I went to open the side door of the triangle-roofed log house. As a house, this was normally the rear entrance, but since the store was using this side it temporarily became the front.

A signboard reading, "Cafe Witch's House" was placed in front of the house. Because there were hardly any people passing by, it would become victory or defeat depending on how much it spreads beforehand in the village.

"Well then, I better line up the tables neatly outside—"

However, as soon as I opened the door, I was petrified

Somehow, apparently, the customers have already lined up in a ro~~~~~w outside.

There were surely around 60 people... As one would expect, there weren't that many seats...

"Oh! Witch-sama's waitress dress!"

"This is radiant!"

"I want to hurry up and see the other's appearances as well!"

Just by going outside, staggering cheers rose.

"U-um, opening hours are from 10 o'clock, you did know that right...?"

I properly stuck a paper of the business hours in front of the store and on the signboard right...

“Of course!”

“Pulling an all-nighter is troublesome, so I came by early morning!”

“It took a day for me to come from the town!”

The person at the very back also held a placard with “End of the Line” written on it. I do not remember making that. Did someone do that voluntarily?

“Currently, we are preparing, so please wait a moment!” ^[1]

Never did I expect that I would be putting out tables while being basked in people’s gazes like this.

Well, partly since I had such earth-shattering strength, the work itself was finished quickly. For example, carrying tables with one in each hand, being Level 99 makes it easy.

However, it wasn’t like we could open at 10 right... It was hard to say, “Wait a little less than two hours”...

I immediately completed the preparations that I planned for outside, and then returned back inside.

“Umm, there were already around 60 people lined up, was it possible to open a little bit earlier at 9?”

Everyone was surprised.

Somehow Harukara’s response had a sense of worry, but in reality, lining up at a person’s home was problematic, she was correct.

“Ah, it seems like they properly lined up since this morning.”

“Then, it’s safe. They caught the first train, huh. How diligent.”

What was the big idea with getting here so early?

“So, will you make it in time for opening at 9?”

“There are no problems with drinks. How about Leica-san?”

“I’ll make it on time since there are already ingredients. However, I’m worried that we’ll sell out when the orders increase, so perhaps I should prepare by flying to the

the village now and deliver extras.”

“This is what I’ll do, so tell me what things you need! Also the number of seats...”

For the time being, should we set out the spare tables and retrieve the stuff in in our room(s)? That way we’ll be ready to accomodate to serve more customers.

Even though I hadn’t said anything yet, Farufa and Sharusha carried the table here.

“Mama, Sharusha said it was necessary to bring out more tables.”

“Kaa-san, Sharusha will do what Sharusha can do.”

Ah, finally without me even saying anything, they were able to judge what should be done, even to the point of moving it! Mama is impressed!

After increasing the amount of seats and putting in a request to deliver ingredients that mayrun out (It’s possible to go to the village quickly since she could fly), we quickly worked to open at nine.

In a sense, it might have been the first time since I’ve lived in this world and been this fired up.

However, there was no exhaustion like when I was a corporate slave.

Speaking of it being natural, I guess it was. A corporate slave’s existence was to work. This time we were working because we liked it.

The source of motivation was different.

And then, the hand of the clock extended to 9 o’clock.

I vigorously opened the side door of the log house.

“Cafe “Witch’s House” will open one hour earlier than planned due to the great number of lined up guests! We will guide you in order, so please wait!”

“Uooooooooo,” cheers erupted.

Well, I didn’t expect for it to become this popular...

The line lengthened compared to earlier. It seemed like that I had to quickly work for the rest of the day now.

Chapter 45

The Cafe was Prospering Too Well

“Yes, two people right! Is a seat inside fine? Would you like an outside terrace seat? Well then, this way inside!”

“One customer right. Sorry, but would a counter seat be alright? Yes, then over here!”

“5 customers right! Then, please go to that table!”

I steadily handled the customers. While handling them, I also did not forget to put on a smile.

Incidentally, the counter seats were a long table hurriedly put alongside the wall. In the initial plans, there was no such thing.

The concept of comfortably relaxing has already starting breaking down. If the turnover rate is not increased considerably, customers that cannot enter will appear.

It's just that, since they've known that the whole time they've been lined up, there hasn't been a single complaint. Rather, I've been bothered by all the encouragement they're giving me. Bothered, or maybe I should say embarrassed...

“Waitress Witch-sama, beautiful!”

“Harukara-chan too!”

“The twin waitresses are also the cutest!”

I never imagined that it would become this popular...

By the way, female customers account for half. There are also cases of Japan's idols also having quite a few female fans, so it is something like that?

However, after all is said and done, the most popular one, or rather one that gathered

the most attention was——

Leica.

“Thank you for waiting... This is the omelet that you ordered... Please, eat slowly...”

She was stationed in the kitchen, but occasionally during the times when Leica would personally make and appearance and carry it over, the customer’s gazes gathered.

“A-an angel...”

“No, a goddess right.”

“If I had such a little sister, I’d have the confidence to hug her one hour a day...”

“Superfluous words are unnecessary. Just looking is priceless.”

Even here, Leica’s cuteness was flawless. Not only the male group, but the women as well were completely captivated. There were also tables with girls that appear to be teenagers chattering.

In reality, when I first saw it, I was also overwhelmed. My intuition was not wrong.

If there was a beautiful girl ranking on who you want to be your little sister, certainly she would jump to first place. She’s wearing waitress clothes though right now.

“Um, everyone, if you stare like that, it’s... embarrassing...”

The destructive power of Leica who had bashfully blushed became outrageous again.

Finally, the blood that rushed to the customer’s heads released with a nosebleed.

“As expected, it’s Leica-chan alright.”

“A serious child wearing that sort of clothes is good isn’t it.”

“Harukara-chan is also good, but that child is too clever right.”

“Nonetheless, I still like boobs though!”

More or less that kind of remarks could be heard everywhere.

That's weird... Even though I was aiming for aiming for the type of cafe where one could take a breather, for some reason it's giving off indecent vibes.

There were parts that deviated from my expectations, but the popularity of the store itself was great.

"This juice is truly refreshing!"

"This soup also warms me up. Even though it has a homely taste, there is also an elegance of the store!"

That's because the menu is also only full of high quality things. Without a doubt, I was feeling very confident. This was also thanks to Leica and Harukara. But then if I had not checked anything, there was also a risk that something outrageous would be served though...

Therefore, there were no problems relating to the popularity, but that meant it was busy...

Just before noon, Sharusha was already sitting in the back.

"Kaa-san... my feet cannot move already... sorry..."

Certainly Sharusha does not have that sort of physical strength, was it hard work? No, on the side of the older sister, she still seemed lively, so she had mental fatigue.

Of course, the customers are also sending their gazes at the cute twin waitresses, so she was probably nervous because of that. Compared to Farufa, Sharusha is quite introverted in terms of personality.

"I understand. Sharusha it's okay for you to rest you know. Rather, I don't have the time to take notice, I'm sorry."

"The-then... I'll only be in charge of the bills... If it's only that, I won't have to trouble you without moving too much..."

“I understand. Then, when you think it’s too much, tell us without enduring.”

I’m glad that business is booming, but I didn’t expect it would thrive this much. There were many faces that were not often seen, not only from Furata Village, but it seems like they had also come from even farther places.

If this was a ramen store, it would be easy to ask why they’re coming so far for a bit of soup, but it’s a cafe, and because the store is today temporary only, it’s hard to say to come again.

Anyways I guess I should work energetically. One table was open, so I went outside the store and brought the next customer inside.

“Yes, how many customers are next?”

“One person.”

There was a familiar face.

“Beelzebub, I often meet you. Or rather, does your demon work leave you a lot of free time?”

“You, you’re being rude to your customers... My antennas are sensitive like this.”

Although Beelzebub was an intimidating high class demon, she’s a blunt, good person. I also have received help from her in the past.

“Yet, from the looks of things, you appear to be stretched quite thin. Given this commotion, I suppose it cannot be helped.”

“ ‘Cannot be helped’ doesn’t begin to describe how hard this is. It’s so busy I’d take any help I can get at this point.”

And, at that moment, I came up with a good idea.

No, rather than a good idea, it’s just a mere request.

“Umm, Beelzebub, if you don’t mind, could you please help out with serving customers...?”

Putting my hands together, I tried requesting. Putting your hands together for a demon, somehow it feels like worshiping heresy.

“Good grief... You immediately employ me like I am a handyman... You know I am a demon... I am not an existence that can be carefreely used... There’s a limit to feeling good. ———Well, I can also do it.”

“Thank you very much!”

To be frank, I thought if I asked, it would work out one way or another. Beelzebub is that kind of person.

“S-since you asked, I cannot help but answer...”

Beelzebub said while showing signs of embarrassment.

Chapter 46

The New Store Employee's Big Participation

"By the way, do you have any waitress clothes? There is nothing wrong with my appearance, but I might as well try to wear those sort of frilly clothes since it fits better."

She was overly enthusiastic, maybe she wanted to try wearing it.

"I only have one spare set of clothing for when it gets dirty, so get changed into that. It wasn't made, but one borrowed from a store though."^[1]

She decided to change into the new set of clothes inside a vacant room.

After waiting a few minutes, Beelzebub came saying, "I'm ready," so I entered the room.

I saw, Beelzebub was standing there wearing the waitress uniform properly.

"The size is perfect. This is quite good, is it not?"

The person herself also checked their attire within the full-length mirror. As expected, this woman is having fun.

However, there was one point that left me uncomfortable.

"Ah... wings are coming out of the uniform... Even though that was a borrowed item, there's a rip!"

"Well, this kind of rip can be repaired with Repair Magic."

"Eh, there's such a convenient magic? I never heard of it though."

"You not knowing means that the magic is the type that is only passed down. Well then, I guess I will bring the book next time."

Demons do things on their own free will without a reason. They can even do such a thing? It's a magic to doom repairing contractors though.

Beelzebub rolled up her sleeves.

"Well then, what should I do first? I shall show you the serving skills of a high class

demon!”

“Umm, well, could you go and get the customer’s orders? There’s a little paper with a number affixed to each table, so you’ll know the table numbers.”

“Alright, leave it to me. Let’s do ten people’s worth of work.”

Beelzebub thrust gallantly into the battlefield (strictly a metaphor).

The customer’s gazes gathered once again with the entry of a new store employee.

“A new-newcomer has arrived!”

“She is filled with the most elegance compared to the other store employees, right?”

“No, rather a cold soldier-like atmosphere is coming from her!”

Certainly, one example of the the high-class demon Beelzebub being good-looking would be her way of walking. Her movement had no wasted movements, the spinal column was also erectly stretched, she was like an extravagant businesswoman.

As a matter of fact, there should be a bureaucratic like position in the demon race, so that’s normal.

However, I also had another concern.

Can Beelzebub, who was usually proud, do something like serving customers I wonder? If she intimated someone with, “Oi, you,” it would be bad.

Beelzebub determinedly put the glass with water on a tray, then went towards the table with customers who just sat down.

Will it be okay? Can she do it properly?

The customers stiffened just a little when a strange shop employee with a proud aura came. On the other hand, the children were frightened.

However, from there something unexpected happened.

Beelzebub’s facial expression changed into an awfully friendly smile.

“Welcome~♪ Here’s your water! Thank you for choosing “Witch’s House” today! Have

you decided on your order?"

A splendid response! Even though she shouldn't have particularly practiced at all or anything!

Furthermore, she's at the level to give suggestions like, "If It's this sweet, I believe this tea over here will suit it," and so forth. It's the technique of a veteran employee.

"Yes, then I have received your order! Please wait a little! Thank you very much for using our services today!"

Finally, the child customers started demonstrating their affection with, "Onee-chan, pretty~!"

"Thank you. When you also grow up, you'll become cool you know. See you later! I'll come again bringing the cooking, so wait for me!"

Am I dreaming I wonder...?

I was worried since I was sure that she was going to say something like 'I am great-jya. Just order something simple so it won't be a burden to me and leave right away'... needless anxiety is just that, needless.

Furthermore, she even changed her ~~no jya verbal tic, and became like a skilled family restaurant employee. She even changed her identity to that extent?^[2]

"Kitchen-san, Herb Tea and Chiffon Cake Set, Fruit Mixed Juice, two incoming!"

"I-I understand..."

The kitchen staff, Harukara, was frightened.

After that, I had the opportunity to meet face to face with Beelzebub.

"How was it, I worked quite well right?"

"You, when you were a waitress, you even changed your tone..."

"I am only proud only when I am in the position when it's natural to be proud. What will happen when the shop employee is more proud than the customer? Not understanding something so simple, I am not stupid."

A very sound argument was given, so I won't offer up any further complaints.

“Oops, there was another fruit crepe bundle order. Well then, using chocolate sauce, I guess I’ll even draw an illustration.”

“You can even do such a thing!?”

“There is nothing impossible for me.”

Beelzebub said with a triumphant look.

Even after that, Beelzebub poured tea into a cup from a very high place, tampered with the foam on top of the cup to making drawings, without holding back performances could be seen.

“Azusa-sama, an unexpected helper has joined...”

Leica said while watching Beelzebub pour tea into a cup with her hand raised very highly.

“Well~, as expected, when troubled, just ask for help... If one person was carrying too much, it’s no good...”

Beelzebub’s words of doing ten people’s worth of work was completely just like that.

Thanks to that, the satisfaction of the customers of cafe “Witch’s House” is rising even further.

“Herb tea right! Thank you very much!”

Beelzebub’s cheerful voice could be heard again.

Thinking about it calmly, a cafe where a high class demon serves customers normally is unheard-of.

Chapter 47

Cafe Closing Party

Thus, thanks to Beelzebub's assistance, we finally had enough margin to run the cafe 'Witch's house'. We managed to finish just before closing time, at around seven in the evening.

The entire staff focused on the last customer leaving out the door.

"Thank you very much for coming today!"

And then, right after service hours ended, I clung to Beelzebub

"Thank you! We were saved by the skin of our teeth!"

"Ah, I know well of your gratitude towards me. As a token of appreciation, allow me to order something from the menu. I did originally come as a customer, after all."

She was right indeed; I put a customer to work the entire time.

"Ah, of course, we can handle that much. We'll keep your orders coming. Just don't order the entire menu."

"Let me see... Then, all the ones on this page of the food menu... This, this, and this cake, and this, this, and this drink, and this one as well..."

"That's some serious overeating..."

"I'm famished from all that work. Also, bring along two bottles of 'Nutritional Liquor' "

There was no such thing on the menu, but Harukara immediately headed off to fetch it anyway.

It was a reaction towards a really scary OG. ^[1]

Leica and I prepared the food menu items. Meanwhile, Beelzebub was happily talking

with my two daughters.

“Look, Farufa. It’s a book on differentials and integrals.” [2]

“Yay! Beelzebub-san, thank you!”

“For Sharusha, a book on the Demon Race’s History.”

“Thank you very much...”

Back in Japan, I have an aunt who spoils her nieces. And like her, she’s way too soft on Farufa and Sharusha; she’s spoiling them. No, on second thought, she did listen to my requests a fair amount so she might be that way with just about anyone.

However, my two daughters weren’t used to working, so they were completely drained and fell asleep mid-conversation about the books. Since I didn’t want to wake them up whilst carrying them up to bed, I draped them in a towel blanket. [3]

Then, the dishes lined up in front of Beelzebub. And so too were our own dishes, ready to eat. There wasn’t enough spare time for a proper lunch.

“Good. Its taste is suitable for this establishment. It isn’t as polished as I’d like them to be, but there is no use in serving court cuisine in a cafe, so it should suffice.”

It looks like we received passing marks, for now.

“I originally came to this village for the festival, as it was nearby. Afterwards, though, I heard of a cafe opening the day before it, so I decided to give it a chance.”

“I see. Sorry for occupying your day with work.”

“At the state that it was running, business would’ve collapsed, so I came at just the right time. The curious villagers in a festive mood came in droves.

“I guess that was the case. We had to serve four times the expected number of people.”

A while ago, when Harukara calculated the sale count, it was estimated at four times the expected amount. She seemed to be happiest when instructed to handle the financial side of things, so I let her do it.

By the way, Beelzebub was quietly eating while holding the conversation. She’s one energetic demon.

“Incidentally, there were other reasons as to why I decided to come.”

As she said that, Beelzebub took out a piece of paper, with words written in Demonic Language.

“I... can’t read Demonic Language at all... And the characters are too closely packed to make any of it out...”

“It goes a little something like this: The Plateau Witch, Azusa, has been dedicated the Demon Medal of Honor. If the enclosed schedule coincides with the recipient’s, please attend without fail.”

“Ah, the Demon Medal of Honor—wait, what even is this!?”

This is the first time I heard of the term.

“In the first place, I’m not even a demon! I may be an immortal who has lived for 300 years, but I’m still a human!”

“Ah, the Demon Medal of Honor is not ‘a medal of honor given to a demon’, but ‘a medal of honor given by demons’. The race of the recipient isn’t taken into account.”

I see. Even in Japan, there are awards and the like given to foreigners who are held in high esteem.

“This award is from the peacekeeping category. Remember, you resolved the dragon’s dispute. Not only did you defeat the enemy, but you also managed to cement lasting peace due to the agreement; that was also taken into evaluation. Well, I was the one who recommended all this in the first place.”

This person, she was doing something behind my back!

However, something like demons lauding these kinds of feats is a far cry from the image I had of them in mind.

“Then, I’ll go. I still owe a few favors.”

“Good. Excellent.”

However, Leica was a careful person, so it seems like she found a few points about this to worry about.

“Um, going to the Demon State, it is safe for us? It would be good if everyone there was

as friendly as Beelzebub.”

“The guys who want to wage war against humanity hardly exist, so it is safe.”

From what Beelzebub said, there’s no need to worry. It’ll probably just be a change of pace if anything.

“I understand... However, Azusa-sama has a certain proneness of getting dragged into things, so I’m still a little worried, but...”

“Ehh!? Why is Leica judging me so negatively?! ”

Leica is in her rebellious age!

“I am not judging you. I, of course, have faith in Azusa-sama. However, it is a fact that these things tend to happen to you... And a fact is a fact.”

When you word it like that, it’s impossible to refute...

“Additionally, there’s a certain person in our group with a predisposition for being weak.”

Leica briefly sent a cold gaze at Harukara.

“Eeh! Sparks are starting to fly!”

“Harukara-san, don’t do anything that might offend the demons. You are not Azusa-sama; you have no means of protecting your own body, so please watch your step.”

Leica is like her guardian in a way

“It’s alright, I say. I’m a seasoned traveler ~. Although all my traveling expenses were stolen on my way to a different province, I managed to scrape together enough funds from working part-time~.”

“You were robbed?!”

Without thinking, I retorted.

“No, no, robbed is too strong a word. I only had some pocket change stolen. The other time I left for a long trip, the only thing of note was me getting surrounded by a group of somewhat scary men, but I got saved by the local soldiers, so it didn’t really lead to anything~.”

Leica looked in my direction and said, “See, you should worry about it.”

“Alright... I will be careful then... Mainly of Harukara...”

There are some people who develop the logic of ‘since I’m safe this time, I’ll be safe

next time', and Harukara was clearly one of them.

Footnotes:

1. OG = Old Girl/Office Girl You figure out which one was used in this context
2. Calculus stuff.
3. A towel blanket is basically a blanket (that resembles a beach towel) that is used in hot weather.

Chapter 48

Day of the Festival

Beelzebub decided to stay over today as well. Since I owed her a huge favor, it was only right that I display the utmost hospitality to her.

“I’ll draw the bath for you, so please be ready. I can also wash your back, if you’d like.”

“Well... I want Farufa and Sharusha to join in too.”

“The girls are asleep though... But alright, they should take one before sleeping anyway. I’ll go wake them.”

Beelzebub looked to be extremely happy with that. Seems like she’s about to blurt out, ‘Let me adopt them!’ again. Shower them with affection all you like, but they still won’t be your daughters.

“I brought this for the two of them to play with.”

Beelzebub brought out a toy duck with hollowed out insides.

“It floats on water. It’ll make bath-time fun for them.”

“So this kind of thing exists here...”

My two daughters seemed delighted to enter the bath with Beelzebub, so I approved of it.

They even came out smiling and happily drying their heads.

“Ah~ Seriously, the both of you are so cute!”

She really likes children... Good grief.

“They’re so cute I want to bring one home!”

“I’m absolutely not okay with that!”

She got a bit too enthusiastic about the idea there, so I had to firmly turn her down.

After exiting the bath, Beelzebub started talking to Harukara about the ‘Nutritional Alcohol’, among other things.

“I wonder if you can grow those kinds of nourishing and sturdy crops in the Demon

Lands...? As the Minister of Agriculture, It is my duty to advance policies that increase commercial crop yield”

“Ah, in that case, send a report on the region’s climate and other geographical features. I’ll compile a list of feasible crops.”

Harukara was a pro at these kinds of conversations. She was careless at times, but she could get the job done in her area of specialty.

They soon lost track of time in the midst of conversation, and before they knew it, it was time for bed.

“Well then, how about we go around the festival together, tomorrow?”

“Sure, sounds good. See you then.”

Like this, the long day at Witch’s House came to an end.



The following day, we set out to to the village holding the Dancing Festival.

There already were people dancing every which way. Also, the stalls had already been set for business, lined up in busy rows. At any rate, the place was like a flea market, with unneeded house articles being sold cheaply.

“Ho, they’re doing relatively well for a countryside festival.”

“Are you going to be arrogant today? Well, it can’t be denied that this is a festival held in the countryside, objectively speaking.”

A festival such as this might seem comparably trivial to one in a big city. But it’s fine. The simplicity of it is just right.

However, since the festival is fairly local and tightly-knit, a great uproar is inevitable...

“Ooh! It’s the Witch-sama’s party!”

“Look, it’s capable waitress-san from yesterday!”

“Hey, clear the path!”

The small sea of humans suddenly parted, emptying the path, and the situation quickly became like the story of Moses.

“No, no, no! Everyone fussing over me just makes it harder to walk these streets, so please treat me like a normal guest!”

Given the situation, however, the people of the village would not concede.

“No, we insist, please walk freely on the main street!”

“That’s right! You’re like everyone’s god in a certain sense!”

I guess it’s all boiled down to this...

“It can’t be helped, Azusa-sama. Isn’t it fine to let them pamper you like a god for this special occasion, Azusa-sama.”

Leica is flattering me, but you’re also part of the ‘god’s’ party. There’s not much of a difference.

“Well then, Leica, why don’t you try walking with the attitude of a god? I’ll follow your lead.”

“I-... I don’t want to... It would be outrageous for someone such as I to do that...”

“See~ It’s no good encouraging others to do something you yourself wouldn’t do.

On that point, this time around, we do have a fellow with us who is experienced in being self-important.

“Ooh, the villagers here properly know how to make way when required...”

Boldly letting out her bumptious aura, Belzebub swaggered down the path of Moses. Imitating that, Farufa also puffed up with pride and walked.

I wonder if her doing this was okay, as it was still within the range of it being cute.

While we were browsing and eating from the various stalls, we occasionally threw ourselves into the middle of a dance.

Chicken, sheep, pork, a whole bunch of skewered foods popped out at random. If it’s on a skewer, you can eat it while walking.

“Leica, which one looks to be the tastiest for you?”

“Let’s see... The seasoned sheep meat looks good...”

“What, can’t you just eat them all?”

“You, I bet you’re the type to not thinking about diets and that kind of stuff...”

She really was a carnivore, in the literal sense.

“Won’t get fat if you’re active enough, and I’m busy all the time.”

Regarding that, I feel like she’s able to meet me fairly often, so I wonder if she really is working?

“Eh, come to think of it, Harukara has been gone since some time ago...”

After looking for her restlessly, we found her sleeping on the ground, drunk.

“N~o, I, can’t drink anymore...”

“Ah~ Get up, learn to stop sleeping on the ground! “

I pulled her up, since she wasn’t going to get up herself.

“Azusa-sama, at least now I know~”

Leica was holding some sort of small bottle.

“...What is that?”

It seems this drink was effective against the type of intoxication Harukara had also developed. Incidentally, the other formulas tasted bitter and astringent to the point of making one’s head spin. I had prepared it in advance.

Leica poured it into Harukara’s mouth.

“This one is guaranteed to make her sober. It’s that potent.”

Then, when approximately half the bottle was emptied into Harukara’s mouth—

“Uee! What is it, this flavor! It tastes like all of hell’s torture in a single gulp! Who was it!? Who made this kind of thing?!”

“It was you! You made it!”

“Aah, the un-inebriator... Since the taste was too much, it didn’t sell a whole lot...”

Harukara immediately regained consciousness... Sigh. That’s good, that’s good.

Well, I guess we’ve gotten through most of the festival.

Chapter 49

The Leading Role of the Festival

We wandered around the heart of the village a fair amount, so we took a break at a cafe. Although one might say that it's just a house doing a completely different business, during the festival season only, it became a cafe, so it's the same system that we did yesterday.

The number of shops in the village was limited, so it was necessary to increase their numbers like this during the festival season. More people came from neighboring towns, so the population density was several times the usual.

"Sharusha, the origin of this festival was originally from a long distance away."

"Festivals to worship the Goddess of Fertility had not spread to here yet, this is very interesting."

Beelzebub and Sharusha were talking about scientific stuff, but basically, if the festival was fun, then it was good. Even now, lively music for dancing was continuing to play outside.

"Incidentally, a while ago, these sorts of festival days were used for meetings between men and women. The companions who got to know each other at the festival spent a hot night together."

"Hey hey! Don't inspire weird things in my daughters!"

What kind of indecent things are you talking about!

"It is not something strange. This is a scholarly talk. Additionally, men and women falling in love itself are not bad right."

"Uu... I understand the rationale, but..."

However, then Sharusha pierced Beelzebub like a superior assassin.

"Hey Beelzebub-san, have you ever fallen in love with a male?"

"W-what are you saying, Sharusha..."

"Well, since it has become that story of conversation. Sharusha and Farufa both aren't that informed."

“Uwa... I also am not that informed about t-that sort of thing... It’s outside of my area of expertise.”

Beelzebub was blushing really hard. Ah, this person was talking about perverted things herself, but wasn’t the type to not be able to handle it at all when bringing it up. Or rather, at this rate, she’ll absolutely never get used to even a little bit of ‘love’.

“Farufa also wants to hear about it~.”

Then, Farufa also wanted to take part. It seemed like Beelzebub had been completely cornered.

“Y-you guys are too young for this as expected, or rather perhaps I should say it is inappropriate for me to explain it... that’s right, you should ask your mother for these kind of things...”

“Wow! Shifting the responsibility!”

“Be quiet! Even you don’t really want to talk openly about something that inappropriate!”

When turning away after asking for a lifeboat, Leica openly feigned ignorance, which formed a ‘I don’t wanna get involved with this kind of conversation’ kind of barrier. Leica is a serious type. It seemed like she hated those kinds of love affair jokes, I guess I should stop it now. Harukara at any rate would only say something like, “Alcohol is my lover,” so as I looked the other way—

“Master! You just thought it would be meaningless to bring up love affair talk with me anyhow, didn’t you!”

Gulp. I’ve been found out.

“By the way, the first time I met people they approached me indiscriminately, but when they saw me dead drunk they got disillusioned.”

“As expected, alcohol is her lover...”

While telling such a silly story, the village chief came into the store.

“Witch-sama, yesterday’s cafe was successful!”

“Ah, thank to you. It was so successful that I was troubled though.”

By the way, the village chief also came to the store with his wife as a married couple. From a positional standpoint, even the village chief absolutely could not make light of the Plateau Witch. One of the duties included in the village chief’s role seemed to be

keeping on good terms with the Plateau Witch.

“So if you do not mind, I thought you would like to ride on a gondola.”

He made a proposal that I did not quite understand.

“Gondola? I’ve ridden on a gondola before though.”

“There is a thing like a box attached with wheels attach on it.”

Ah, it’s something similar to a float in Japan’s festivals.

That will be paraded at the climax of the festival, but an immense large amounts of requests had been collected asking for the Witch-sama’s party to please ride it. The men who could not go to the cafe yesterday were especially truly requesting it!”

“Well, it’s embarrassing, but since we have the opportunity, I think it’s fine if it’s just riding.”

“So... if possible, if you ride with your waitress appearance... the masses of the village will also be happy but...”

What’s with that request...

Leica said, “Again...?” and immediately blushed. However, I also do not want them to be disappointed when we ride with normal clothes, so if that’s the case, I did not want that.

I patted Leica on her shoulders.

“Let’s pitch in and help here Leica. Since it’s a festival, “let’s give them special service.”

“I-I understand...”

Thus, we rode on the gondola. In our waitress appearances.

Frankly speaking, it got unbelievably excited.

“Witch-sama banzai!” “Witch-sama banzai!”

I was only waving my hand on top of the moving gondola, but the voices rose to a very great extent. I felt like I was born again as a super popular idol. There were also points that I was embarrassed about, but because I was receiving everyone’s enjoyment, I deemed it acceptable.

“Leica-sama!” “Leica-sama is the best!” “I also went to the store yesterday!”

Eh, for some reason Leica's support was also loud...

"U-um! Please stop adding sama! The normal 'Leica' is fine!"

Come to think of it, her name had also become Leica-sama. She was mostly called Leica-chan in the cafe though...

"You're way too cute when you're feeling shy!" "Become my younger sister!" "Leica-sama!"

Wow... Having done the cafe, everybody in the village had completely been awakened to Leica's cuteness. I wonder if I did something a little bit inexcusable to Leica...

"Well, Leica-san, good for you. Aren't you popular?"

Harukara said with no follow up whatsoever.

"This sort of this is a little bit..."

Leica, on the contrary because probably of your hesitant actions like that, your cuteness appeal didn't drop at all.

My little sister was too cute!

"Uu~, Azusa-sama, stand out more, please scatter the gazes looking at me~!"

Leica, not being able to bear it, came clinging to me.

"Aah, my cute little sister is embracing me, I am super happy."

"Azusa-sama, what are you saying!"

Thus, us riding on a gondola with our waitress uniforms became the festival's most popular event.

After that, the village chief requested that we please do the cafe again next year because of the expected attracted customers.

"I will decide taking Leica's attitude and so forth into consideration."

I see, now I understood how festivals became established as a yearly tradition like this.

[Misgivings of Elf Moving On Arc]

Chapter 50

Suspicious of Moving On

“Sorry for the trouble, but can I exchange my cooking duty scheduled two days from now for today’s, Master?”

Harukara said such a thing this morning.

The festival came to a close, and things started to finally calm down around here.

“That would be fine, but for what reason?”

“Oh, I’m going to Furata’s neighboring town, Nasukute.”

Nasukute Town was just a one week’s walk from Furata Village. I also went there on occasion, but scarcely so. It’s too far away for routine shopping, and it doesn’t have all that much to offer in terms of goods and services, since it’s so small a town.

Frankly speaking, it was an unappealing place to visit. It felt like a longer route from home compared to Furata Village.

Well, I wouldn’t have any problems with going there if only it wasn’t so far away.

“But, why exactly are you going there?”

“Just going to inspect the place. Anyway, time for me to go water the flowers~”

Harukara left it at that, already gone from her seat.

It became hard to ask what the inspection was for...

The following day, during lunch break...

Harukara was flipping through some papers for whatever reason.

“That seems about right~ I want this lot size~ No, rather, I guess a larger size would be better~ Oh, but I should probably negotiate with the real estate agent before deciding~”

I was hearing her talk about that sort of thing.

Eh, real estate? You’re buying land and buildings?

Harukara wants to move out and buy her own home?!

I never saw this coming, but I did openly treat Harukara as if she were a joke character. That being said, it probably isn’t fun to be on the receiving end of it.

Harukara was originally an established, working adult, and proved to be quite the success in business. Furthermore, she’s an excellent apothecary. It shouldn’t be surprising that a person such as her would leave after receiving these rough treatments.

I really shouldn’t have been making light of her skills as an apothecary... Some aspects of my life are a mess, which is what lead me to finding faults in Harukara’s work.

What should I do?

Should I try telling her, ‘don’t leave’?

But she didn’t say a single word about actually leaving, so wouldn’t it be weird if I brought it up first?

Also, what an adult decides for their future is their own choice. It’s completely different from a child going into college and commuting from home.

—While my head was swarmed with worrying and distracting thoughts, Harukara went somewhere.

“Calm down, calm down... It doesn’t seem like she’s made a firm decision on it yet. Besides, it might just be some sort of misunderstanding on my part.”

The paper that Harukara left on the table had a complete list of the real estate information of Nasukute.

Even some of it has been highlighted in red.

“Wow! She’s serious!”

Just then, Leica came in looking flustered. She was looking around restlessly.

“Um, Azusa-sama, could I have... a bit of your time?”

“Yes, what is it?”

“I can’t be too sure of it yet, but isn’t Harukara-san planning to move from here? If you know anything of this, please tell me...”

“You think so too?!”

I thought this was a conversation not meant to be had here, so I moved it to my room.

“Why, I did actually think that was the case — Just the other day, Haruka entered the room to prepare some medicine, and during it, she said something about, ‘I’ll obtain an even wider work area in the next location.’”

“Let’s see... As expected, she really is thinking about leaving us...”

She’s a full-fledged adult, so she likely saw no need to inform me about this.

Rather than saying I was like a master to her, there were some peculiarities about our relationship.

“I briefly investigated Nasukute Town, and found out the land there is fairly cheap. There’s also a thick and lush forest by the place, a prime location for harvesting regents. Harukara is clearly aware of it, and planning to leave here for a place like that, so...”

For a while, me and Leica sank into silence.

“Should I... tell her not to leave?”

I didn’t know what to do, so I asked Leica.

“I think whatever choice you make is the right one. It should be decided by Azusa-sama herself. However—Harukara-san will have the final say in it. I thought we were like a family living together, but since we are not a real family...”

It's like that.

Harukara didn't feel the need to discuss this with us. In other words, there's no use in worrying about it; her intention looked to be strong.

"Yes, thanks, Leica. I found the answer within me."

I displayed a lonesome looking smile.

"So, that answer is...?"

"Wait here for a bit. Let me get my daughters."

I brought Farufa and Sharusha, who were reading some difficult books in my room.

"Umm, first of all, promise me you won't talk to Harukara about this. Okay?"

"Yes!" "Yea."

I obtained my daughters' agreement.

I told them about how Harukara was planning to leave this house.

"Eeh!? We'll lose big sis Harukara?!"

Farufa seemed like she was about to cry.

"Farufa, quiet down. Unfortunately, yes, it's very likely that she will. She's even decided on the new location for her new home."

"Sharusha thought that as well. Harukara was saying things like, 'I'll be getting a fresh start soon.'"

As I suspected, she wants to have a fresh start in a new place.

If that is actually the case, what we're able to do here is limited. But we should still do all that we can.

"Everyone, this is, in the end, something that Harukara decided for her own happiness, so I think we shouldn't try to bug her about this. However, even if she is to leave soon, we can still create some pleasant memories about her parting, right?"

Farufa nodded in agreement.

“So tomorrow night, let’s hold a grand surprise farewell party!”

“By the way, why does it have to be tomorrow night?”

Leica, that’s a good question.

“Harukara is going to the city’s real estate agent the day after tomorrow. If we manage to sway her heart with our plan, she might reconsider staying.”

While it is a ‘farewell party’, it might as well be our last chance to persuade her into not leaving.

Chapter 51

Farewell Party Strategy

The time limit is of essence, only around a whole day and a bit more. The preparations need to be done in a hurry.

“Leica, I leave the food up to you.”

“Yes, I understand. By the way, what exactly is Harukara’s favorite food?”

“To be frank, she’s a child who likes alcohol more than food... Anyways, since she’s an elf, I think she likes vegetables.”

“You’re right. Let’s use all sorts of vegetables.”

“I’m going to go fly and buy some high-grade alcohol.”

At times like this if you don’t use money, when will you use it? Time to fly to a prospering town in Nanterre Province to buy expensive alcohol, enough that it’ll attract Harukara again.

“Mamaaa, What should we do?”

Let me see... for my two daughters... Alright, let’s use the children’s privilege to the max.

“What’s that?”

“It’s a card where you write a message on a piece of paper and read that in front of Harukara; stuff like memories of enjoyable times living with Harukara-san so far.”

This should be quite effective. She might even go ‘Well, maybe I shouldn’t leave...’

This welcome information came from the older sister.

“Eh? Is that so? I didn’t know that at all...”

“Sharsusha is too shy to show her drawings, and was always hiding it. Also, since she has not drawn recently, Mama probably would not know.”

Sharusha seemed to be troubled by what Farufa said; her eyebrows were shaped like the character ‘ノ’.

“I-I’ll show it to people once I get better at it... Before that, I’m sealing it off...”

Simply put, I really really really want to see it. It’s the drawing of my own daughter. I decided I wanted to see it.

“Now, if it’s okay with Sharusha, could you let me see it~? Mama wants to see Sharusha’s picture~. I want to know more about the things I don’t know about Sharusha~.”

Sharusha quickly nodded, and dashed for her room after saying a quick “I’ll bring it”.

“It’s like this though...”

Sharusha came back presenting something that resembled a sketchbook with sinking confidence.

The drawings weren’t colored, but they were absurdly good. There were several realistic portraits. One of them looked like that girl Kako who Sharusha got to know in town. It also looked like Sharsua was also drawn here as well.

“Mmm, this isn’t a mother’s ‘this is good~’, but a real ‘this is good’... Also, it’s not only good, but you can also feel the spirit of the people drawn. You managed to convey things like ‘this person is probably kind’...”

Leica who was nearby bent forward and took a look at the drawings. Astonished, she said, “You could become a disciple of a painter with this... Actually, this ability should be developed.”

“It’s embarrassing since it’s not good enough to show to people yet...”

If this is the level where you can’t show it to people, please tell me at what level you can show it.

After all, ten out of ten people would recognize that these are good sketches you know.

I put both my hands on Sharusha’s shoulders.

“Sharusha, I appoint you to the duty of drawing Harukara’s portrait. Even a rough feel one is good, so please draw. If that child even leaves, I think it’ll become her life’s treasure.”

“Okay, I’ll listen to Kaa-san’s request.”

Sharusha nodded her head repeatedly in agreement.

“However, promise me you won’t come back and see it before it’s finished. If you see

me drawing it, I'll be more embarrassed."

"Okay, I'll absolutely not look. I promise. I won't do something like Tsuru no Ongaeshi."

[1]

"Tsuru no Ongaeshi?"

"It's a fairy tale. It's about a crane that was rescued from a hunter's trap who transformed into a human to return the kindness given to it from the couple that saved her. She became their daughter and supported them by weaving beautiful cloth from behind a closed door. Curious, the couple peeked at her work when she specifically said not to peek. It turns out it was the crane weaving the cloth from its feathers. Being found out, the crane left." [2]

"Aah, it resembles Karushura folklore distributed in the southern region."

I didn't understand well the contents of that scholarly cultural remark, but... it simply meant there's a similar story, right?

Thus, we generally decided on what preparations to be done.

On that day, I went out to go buy alcohol.

I bought one bottle of grape wine (worth 300,000 gold), and also one bottle of spirit (worth 500,000 gold). Let's stop thinking about how many slimes worth they are. Since I also sold medicines and the like, I naturally had money for this. If I wanted to, I could buy ten bottles of each with the savings I have.

Well, the problem was the appointed day itself.

It's difficult to prepare from a farewell party if Harukara was always inside the house.

"Harukara, I'd like to go mushroom gathering, but could you help?"

"Ahh. Yes master!"

Alright, the plan to take Harukara outside was a success.

"But aren't we doing it a bit late for mushroom gathering? Don't we usually do it in the morning?"

"There were some circumstances today."

When I think that this might perhaps be the last group work with Harukara, I felt a bit of ennui. [3]

"Master, today your expression seems rather gloomy. Is there something wrong?"

Harukara ask me during our break.

"Well, I guess I was thinking something related to farewells."

"Aah, something like the death anniversary of a beloved one?"

Harukara misunderstood on her own accord.

“Even if it wasn’t by death, farewells comes suddenly without warning.”

“Aah, that happens. Worrying about when to say farewell.”

Ah, suggestive behavior remark...

“I’ve been living fairly well of an unheard of way of life, but I have always thought that I want to make farewells a beautiful thing. I want farewells with mutual meaning or rather, to be able to step forward without regrets.”

“...Yea, that’s right.”

“Um, master? Are you crying?”

“N-no, I’m not...”

Gradually, the day came to an end. The preparations were probably done.

“Harukara, let’s return.”

“Yes, master!”

There’s only a few more times to be called like this I guess.

When we arrived at the house, I said to Harukara “Wait at the entrance a bit” then informed everyone inside that we’ve returned. After that, I went back to the entranceway.

“Thanks for waiting. Let’s go in.”

“Ha, did something happen?”

Harukara entered the house with a confused expression, and opened the door leading to the dining room.

““Harukara-san, thank you for everything so far!””

Everyone’s voice joined together.

Chapter 52

Termination of the Farewell Party

“Umm, what’s this...? There’s a paper with ‘Harukara-san, please do your best from now on’ written on it on display...”

Harukara’s eyes were swimming. The surprise was a success.
Alright, on to the second tactic.

Farufa went in front of Harukara, clutching a letter in her hands.

“To Harukara Onee-san. Onee-san made a lot of different delicious juices for Farufa. You also told tons of stories about interesting plants, and made looking for mushrooms very fun for Farufa. You are slightly absent-minded, but because of that, you never get angry at anyone and have always treated me kindly. Knowing that Harukara Onee-san is moving, Farufa is very sad. If you can, please remain here, and I wish that you’d tell me more stories again. However, I also feel that I want you to flourish in your new place... There might be various hardships ahead, but... please smile and live from now on. Uu uu... Y-you’re leaving...”

Farufa was overcome with emotions and cried before finishing. It’s improper to say ‘nice’ to my crying daughter, but probably might move Harukara’s heart, right?

“Uu... I’ll give this...!”

“Ah, thanks...”

Harukara accepted that letter.

“Now, what is this...?”

Next is Sharusha.

“I thought about Harukara and drew this.”

She drew Haruka sitting in the medicine processing room. As expected, she drew extremely well.

“Umm, er... Thank you very much...”

While Harukara was confused, she did properly accept the drawing.

“Well then, let’s drop this dreary business and drink happily today!”

I put the alcohol on the desk.

“This is the 300,000 gold wine ‘Goddess’ Tears’ and the 500,000 gold spirit ‘Glory’. I splurged and bought them, so make sure you savor it without fail before you get drunk!”

“Eeh! U-um, master? This is some sort of misunderstanding...”

“It’s not a mistake! You’ve made plans to move to Nasukute Town, right? Therefore, today’s our farewell celebration for you!”

For some reason, Harukara suddenly turned pale.

“Mmm? You also feel like crying too? It’s fine, go ahead and cry. We’re all family after all.”

“Master, you’re wrong! I don’t have plans to move anywhere!”

That remark dropped down on the ‘now on’ part of ‘Harukara-san, please persevere from now on’.

We were at a loss of words.

“What did you say? But... aren’t you heading to meet the Nasukute Town’s realtor?”

“I am indeed going to go master, but I do not have any plans to leave here.”

“Then...? Are you deciding to go only when you find a good house?”

“No master! AS-I-SAID, I never had any intentions of leaving! I’m only going to go to the realtor just to make a medicine and beverage workshop in Nasukute Town!”

Now that she mentions it, didn’t she say before that she was thinking on building a workshop some time ago?

“Eh...? In that case then... we all misunderstood...?”

“That is so master. At least, I plan to continue to live in this house but...”

In other words, there’s no need for the farewell party anymore.

“So that was~it! Here I was worried and wasted my time...”

I dropped my shoulders. I felt exhausted.

“Just with these two drinks... 800,000 gold went flying away...”

“Azusa-sama, I am sorry. I should have collected more evidence. It had been a flying farce...”

“Everyone? Isn’t it becoming an ‘it’s somehow’ my fault’ kind of mood?! Isn’t that weird?!”

However, at times like this, children were sincere at least.

“You aren’t leaving! Farufa, happy!”

Farufa reached and hugged Harukara.

“T-thank you very much! It feels like I received a congratulations. Finally!”

That’s it. It is a happy thing is for certain, so that kind of shift is all you need.

“Well then! We will now start the ‘Congratulations for Staying Harukara’ party! Everyone! Prepare the alcohol and the juice for the toast!”

In any case, we had an extravagant dinner that day.

“Ah~... This wine~. It is truly mild and mellow~. I can’t resist it~.”

“Of course you wouldn’t be able to. You’re drinking and crying at the same time. Actually, I’ve never had a drink this pricey.”

The best I had before was a time when I was invited into the village for an event and they opened a bottle of expensive alcohol for me.

“The meal today is extremely delicious. Are all of my favorite things used in them?”

“That’s because I made it while considering that it would suit Harukara-san’s tastes well. Personally, I’d prefer a little more meat. I don’t want to waste food, so please eat up.”

Leica brought out one dish after another. I thought that the portions were a bit small; it seemed to be a strategy to win by the numbers.

According to Harukara, if she made the workshop at Nasukute, she would be able to go there and back within the day if she walked. Since she’ll be the president, there won’t be a need to be there everyday once things work out well.

“By the by, don’t you need an enormous sum to create a workshop?”

“I’m putting in the money I’ve earned so far. Even if I fail though, I won’t be having any

debts, so it's safe. However since I'm going to make it here in a different region, I have a lot of uncertainties to think about whether it will go well or not.

Harukara seems to be reliable on that point, so it's fine.

"The town of Nasukute is at the foot of the mountain. Since underground water flows around there, spring water is abundant. So, if I use that water, it'll be possible to put on sale a health drink similar to 'Nutritional Alcohol' in large quantities."

"Also, there's a limit to employing people from Furata Village, but if it's Nasukute, it's possible to hire ten employees. I'm planning to bring experienced elves at the start, but if I can get many people from Nasukute as staff, it will also become job creation, whether it will be good or bad."

"I see. The plan was to make it approximately the town's speciality, so do it firmly ok."

"Yes! I will work hardly!"

Three minutes later and Harukara drank herself drunk. Now she couldn't make a meaningful conversation but...

"It will probably be fine."

Leica said that as she smiled while looking over Harukara.

"That's right. Management is her strong point."

I was able to celebrate the start of a new life of a family member, so that was good.

Chapter 53

Ghost Extermination

Harukara managed to purchase some land in the outskirts of town, after negotiations with the realtor, and built a workshop there.

It was a workshop, just not in the sense like back in Japan with exhaust pipings and assembly line robots. It looked no different than a regular store. I did feel like it was an upgraded version of the cottage industry however, although the jars and the labels are done manually. ^[1]

The workshop was made quickly, thanks to Leica who called a dragon acquaintance to help. In five days, the building itself was near perfection.

Actually, according to Harukara: “The cost for construction was substantially decreased, so I’ll go and by some expensive alcohol.” I didn’t particularly mind about those things. However, if the profits go up, please treat me to something, ok?

Still, the workshop won’t start up just by making the building. Harukara was busy from dawn to midnight working out the system to transport the necessary materials and equipment preparations.

Leica even pitched in by transforming to her dragon form, making round trips to see the other dragons off. It is after all especially dangerous for Harukara’s willful body to travel at night, walking several kilometers after all.

“Umm, aren’t you working a bit too much? Don’t die from overwork now...”

“No, no, master. Even if I am tired, if I drink one bottle of ‘Nutritious Alcohol’, I can carry on for a while. Recently though, I seemed to have been drinking slightly more ‘Nutritional Alcohol’ each day compared to before...”

“Th-that’s obviously bad for you! From now on, make sure you absolutely come back home at eight in the evening!”

“U-umm... In that case, the work will be delayed...”

“Then hire people and make them do something one way or another! You’ll really

collapse into a heap if you keep doing the unreasonable and do everything by yourself! It's fine if you just collapsed, but it'll be all over if you died because of it!"

"Master... You really are not going to give up on this..."

"Okay. You might become the president of a workshop in the future, but you are first and foremost my disciple in this house. Because of that, I will thoroughly be your supervisor. Overworking yourself is not acceptable, so with that being said, let's go with this."

And so I somewhat forcibly improved the labor practices and avoided the workshop becoming a black company. I thought there would be no problems later on with the operations, but... [2]

"I can't get employees..."

Harukara had an all-nighter kind of face since the morning.

"Why? Are you being that stingy with wages?"

"It's not that master! Actually, I'm offering better pay compared to the town's general job salary. It's also not that I'm looking for people with technical knowledge. I'm thinking of having them work one one part of the process and then pass it on, like an assembly line. Anyone can do that if they properly learned."

Then, there probably is another reason.

Something like keeping a distance from an unique occupation? If I had to say, the people around this people are conservative.

"They come out. It seems to be like a famous place..."

"Come out? The spring water?"

"N-no master. Rather, if that doesn't come out, I'd be troubled. It's ghosts."

Harukara said it with an eerie kind of voice.

"Ghosts... Are there really such things?"

Strictly speaking, I am skeptical about this.

"I also didn't think they exist. However, I saw it yesterday. While I was working there, a 15 year old girl with short-bobbed hair..."

According to Harukara——

Several hundred years ago, it seemed a trader that failed in their business lived on that land. It seems like they sold their 15 year old daughter to a brothel for gold. She

apparently was told a like that she was to be married off to a noble. On the day that she realized she was going to be sold to a brothel, she despaired and hung herself. As a result, it seems like if a building was built there, the spirit of the dead girl will haunt the building, and that was a hindrance.

It sounded like there were a lot of 'it seems', but this kind of story doesn't contain much accurate information, so it can't be helped there.

It was just that it was a famous story in Nasukute Town, so because of it everyone doesn't want to work at that building.

"I did think that land was a bit strange because of how strangely cheap it was..."

"You got your hands on property that has a variety of troubles."

"In other words... if that ghost disappears, then everything would turn out fine!"

"It would come down to that in theory."

"So, master? Can you help me?"

"Eh?"

I said with a reluctant kind of voice.

"I'm not good with that sort of thing... Those cursed ones..."

"You'll be fine master since you're a witch! Besides, with master's strength, even ghosts would run away! Please exorcise it master!"

Easy for you to say...

I don't have any spells related to exorcism. Isn't that the job of a clergyman?

Let's ask someone more informed about this.

Thus, I asked Sharusha about what a ghost is.

"The technical term of a ghost is called 'isolation spirit'. It can be said the generic name for a soul that had come out of the body."

"It's too technical for me; I couldn't understand. Explain it more plainly."

"There are two types of these isolation spirits. One can move, confined in approximately the place where they died themselves."

This is some sort of ghost bound to a specific location.

“Then, the other one has relatively free movement, and can fly about various place according to their own will. This case was only witnessed in the place it died, so I think it is the former one.”

“In other words, this is the type that is bound to a specific location, right? Is there any method to deal with those?”

“Although it’s not impossible to forcibly exorcise them with a clerical item, since it doesn’t hold clear hostility towards the living, the clergymen won’t carry out these kinds of things. This can also be said to be a blasphemous deed to spirits.”

If that’s the case, only we can do something one way or another.

I turned around towards Harukara, and spoke.

“I understand. Let’s go see it at night.”

“Thank you very much, master!”

“However... restricted to situations that a helper comes.”

“Helper?”

“Call Beelzebub.”

If you’re with a high level demon, a spirit probably wouldn’t be scary at all.

Footnotes:

1. Initially, we used the term ‘workshop’ in the initial chapters to suit the setting of the story, which is a medieval era world. The term “Koujyou” also can be used for refering to factories. Therefore, Azusa is comparing it to modern day factories.

2. ED: The infamous term that sprung up in Japan at the early 2000s, mainly in the IT business. It those companies that hire a lot of young employees to work overtime for peanuts. Expect demoralizing conditions and power-tripping from your superiors. Oh you can quit, but they’ll exploit your reputation and dig up enough dirt to goad you to stay.

Chapter 54

Let's Call a Helper

I was already taught magic to instantly call Beelzebub. Actually, she herself said 'There is magic to call me', and taught it to me beforehand... I think she probably wants to be invited over one way or another.

Leica said to me before that "It might be hard for her to make friends because she has a distinguished positions among the demons. She also has authority, so it has to be hard for people to approach her and become real friends." I think Leica might be right on this.

If that's so, then I can call Beelzebub without reservation. I went outside, drew a magic circle, and did a special chant.

"Vosanosanonnchishidau Veiani Enriela!"

The mysterious words that could be heard was in demonic language.

By the way, it's fine if I don't understand the meaning. When chanting an incantation, the pronunciation is more important, so it's fine.

An ominous, blackish air sprung forth from the magic circle.

While I thinking that this actually felt like the right atmosphere for a witch, I waited for a response.

Waited.

Motionlessly waited.

5 minutes passed.

Ah... no matter how you look at it, this isn't a door that a cat-shaped robot holds, so it's not like she's going to come immediately. Probably she'll be around the next day at the earliest. ^[1]

"I guess I should go home."

When I returned home, I saw that Beelzebub was there soaked up to her hair.

Somehow, I felt I was somewhat guilty of something, and decided to gently close the door.

That door was opened.

“Oi. Even though you called for me, why did you become so distant...?”

“No umm, perhaps I made some sort of blunder some~where...”

“That’s right! Thanks to you I had a really bad time! Because your pronunciation was rough, the summoning point of that delicate ritual was off!”

Oh, so it really was demonic magic to directly call Beelzebub.

“In the first place, why is the bath filled with lukewarm water? Was it there since the morning? I was transferred there, and it ended up becoming a catastrophe!”

“Actually, that was yesterday’s leftover water we accumulated for watering the flowers and so on. Isn’t it quite ecological?”

“Ecological is fine, but don’t transfer me to such a place!”

The location had deviated. It can’t be helped since the demonic language is hard to pronounce. It’s the kind where you have to intonate correctly.

“Sorry. I’ll practice more from now on.”

“Good grief... But... then again, it’s strange for a human to be able to use demonic magic after being taught about it once. As expected... you have a natural talent for it...”

Is this possibly the strong point of being Level 99?

Harukara rushed to prepare a drink for Beelzebub. It seems that it was beyond Harukara’s expectations that Beelzebub would come this quickly.

“So, what is it?”

Because she was soaked, Beelzebub was in a slightly bad mood. If you think about it, it could be said that this is the worst situation to be asked a favor from.

“Harukara will explain concerning that.”

“Ehh?! Master! Please don’t abandon me!”

In fact, this was Harukara’s matter, so properly do it.

“I am not angry, so it’s alright to say what you want.”

but...”

“T-then I will talk... I umm, created a workshop in the nearby town, but err... There were ghosts that umm appeared here and there... I’m err troubled about them so... umm... if the Beelzebub-san was here, the ghosts might become err... become afraid and it might umm somehow work out~~. I tried to call you out for that reason, but...”

“You called me out just for THAT reason!”

“Please don’t get angry, even though you said you wouldn’t get angry!”

Well, Harukara does have a fair argument. Still, parents have always been known to say ‘We won’t get angry so tell us the truth’ and then get angry afterwards. My own parents told me they weren’t really mad, but they were rather scolding me for argument’s sake. It was that sort of thing.

“Ah~, really... I was summoned while I was in the middle of the ‘Agriculture Promotion Measure’ meeting only to find out I was summoned for this! I’m pretty sure the bureaucrats would be scolding me over this...”

Moreover, it seems like she was called in the middle of a quite important meeting.

“Since I’m already here, tell me where that factory is immediately. I’ll go crush that ghost.”

If it was a girl ghost, I hope you won’t go as far as to crushing her.

“Umm, the ghost only comes out at night, so could you wait until night?”

“If that’s the case, at least call me at night!”

Beelzebub erupted again.

“Sorry. But, I didn’t know that it would directly summon you here.”

“I guess I didn’t tell you... Everything is my fault I guess... Lend me a spare room until nightfall... I can only create some more meeting materials so they can’t complain...”

Thus, after hearing out each of our intentions, we waited for night to come. I said each of our motives to because Beelzebub said “If night comes a bit slower today, it’ll be complete...” while I was saying “I want to quickly resolve this...”.

Like Furata Village, Nasukute had little foot traffic at night, making it quite quiet. It was really dark, or I might just be used to Japan’s towns being too bright. This world naturally has nothing similar to neon signs.

Night is time for people to sleep. Working at that time is a mistake. Therefore, I am against overtime... Dammit. I was thinking of my previous world's memories...

There wasn't any people living in the workshop, so it was especially quiet."

"Umm, Azusa. You're some sort of monster yourself, having lived for all these three hundred years. Why do you need me here?"

"I am weak with ghosts and that sort. I can't beat them if they don't have any substance.

"But aren't Farufa and Sharusha existences made up of myriads of slime spirits? However... that might just be a theory."

Beelzebub entered inside rudely.

As expected, the personnel selection itself was not a mistake.

Chapter 55

Ghost < Demon

It was so obvious to the extent that I thought it was stupid to say, but the inside was silent.

Even though I shouldn't be scared since it was something natural, the silence was scaring me.

I did not have the courage to proceed in the pitch dark, so I prepared several lamps and lanterns, and coped with it.

...Come to think of it, there should be magic for illumination. I should study it another time; it's indispensable in places like this.

"Uu... it looks like something will come out..."

"Are you stupid? Didn't you call me because it will come out? If nothing comes out, wouldn't this be settled?"

This demon is a pragmatist.

"Hey, Beelzebub? Can we hold hands?"

"Do as you please."

Beelzebub said and held her right hand behind her. As expected, she was an older sister character that could be relied on.

"Master, please hold hands with me as well!"

Harukara also came and held my right hand. It now became a weird situation where the three of us were proceeding on with our hands connected. Since it would be a hindrance if we were walking lined up in a row, we proceeded with one leg bent in front and the other extended behind.

"We'd be awfully slow if we were walking in a row... It feels like I've become a demon called a 'centipede human'. When you see that thing connected body-to-body for the first time, it is quite frightening."

"S-stop the scary stories!"

"Hey, hey. I get it. Even if a ghost appears I won't fail, so it's okay to not worry."

I do not notice because I am looking down, but it seems that Beelzebub was surveying the surroundings while we were walking.

“Harukara. By the way, around where did it come out?”

“It appeared when I was doing my work in the room beyond here... The lights were on, but...”

"I see, I see. Well, shall we focus the search there?"

"Um, it's scary there, so why don't we stop...?"

“You guys, get yourselves together! You called me out to help search, so why are you now saying to stop?! What do you want me to do?!”

What Beelzebub is saying is true when you think about it logically... but with this going who cares about logic? I want you to stop blaming Harukara, please?

"I'll go there and see what's inside of that room."

“P-please stop! At least make this the last! Ok! Ok!”

Harukara's right. How about we warm up by playing a round of shiritori, then go check after?" [1]

“...You two are idiots. In the first place, how can a round of shiritori be a warm up? That’s something for girls when they got nothing to do...”

The vanguard Beelzebub charged in like a berserker. If it's like this, it might be alright if we just leave this to Beelzebub. However, going back now is scary as well, so I can't do anything.

So, we set foot in the room with that interesting history when ‘it appeared’.

At that moment, the lantern's fire went out with a whiff.

“Kyaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!!!!!!”

“Hyaaaaaaaaa!!!! Master, please save mmmmeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee!”

Harukara and I screamed simultaneously.

"You're noisy! You guys are more trouble than the ghost!"

Beelzebub was also yelling, so another voice increased again.

"Ah, but, there also is a ghost."

Beelzebub said without hesitation

[illegible]

“Hieeeeeeeeeeeee!!!!!!!!!!!! I’m going to wet myself in various wayssssssssssssssss! It’s leakinggggggggggggg!!!!”

“You guys are too noisy! Cool down for a bit! It’s a ghost! The spirit of a dead girl! What part is scary?!”

“No, that’s scary! Rather, why are you so calm?!”

Annoyed, Beelzebub shook off my hand. Stop! I’ll be scare all the more, so stop!

“It’s scary because you can’t see it right. Therefore, do something about it. I’ll wait.”

If it’s come down to this, I can only rely on this ghost hunter.

“Oi, girl ghost! Reveal your form here! You can do that much right!? You’ve remained here the whole time, so you can’t say that you’re not able to! Oi! Hey! Answer me!”
Beelzebub shouted out towards the darkness.

“I am the high level demon Beelzebub. In addition, I am the Minister of Agriculture. Since I hold that authority, it is within my power to make your gravesite a horse dung storehouse! You hear me?! Your place of memories will become a storehouse of horse dung!”

That’s just plain harassment!

“Additionally, since us high level demons don’t really need a reason to, I will cause damage to your spirit! You want to taste more painful memories than what you experienced when you died?! Is that ok?! If I don’t see you appear before I count from ten, I will kill you!”

Now she’s threatening to kill the ghost!

“Ten, nine, three, two, one, zero!”

That’s unreasonable! You didn’t even count to ten!

The desk in the room made a clatter sound as it moved.

“Kyaaa! The ghost is angry!”

“Oh, so you can move the desk? So? What’s so scary about moving a desk? What kind of effect does it provide? Oi. Hey, ghost. Say something!”

Beelzebub said in a threatening tone.

“If you’ve got something to say, show your face and say it. I have no interest in your

past and misfortune. If you're scared of a selfish human who came here, then you're the same as a pest. Since you're a pest, I will exterminate you without any hesitation."

Incidentally, Harukara approached me and hugged me with all her might.

"God. Oh god please help me... I'll do anything... I'll do anything so..."

She was trembling. The reliable one wasn't god, but a demon though."

"What? You disapprove it? Then try cursing me. It's useless. It's not possible for a spirit like you to curse a high level demon. Rather, I think it's better for me to use demon magic to curse you instead."

Everyone who has got a ghost problem, you should bring along a high level demon, probably. But... as far as ghosts are concerned, this is their worst enemy.

Chapter 56

Ghost Capture

“Oh? Planning to run away? I won’t let you do so! You won’t get away!”

Apparently, from Beelzebub’s word, it seems like the spirit was frightened. Well, if a warlike fellow like this came, you’d probably think that this is bad.

Also, it doesn’t seem like Beelzebub feels like overlooking the ghost. As it is now, she’s got the intention of capturing it.

“Wait!”

Suddenly, Beelzebub spread her wings and seemed to flutter towards the ceilings I couldn’t see it clearly because of the darkness, but that’s what probably happened.

“What!? The battle is beginning!?”

“Wrong! It is only going to be an one-sided massacre from me!”

She said something demon-like! Ah... she is a demon after all.

“Now, insignificant spirit, for the sin of making a fool out of me, you are going to pay for it.”

I wonder why, but I’m beginning to feel like helping the ghost now. Otherwise, wouldn’t this ghost have a bad time?

“Umm, I don’t want you to get cursed though...”

“Don’t worry about it! Curses happen because there’s a spirit doing it! If that’s extinguish, you won’t get cursed!

Aah! As expected, I had a feeling she was a murder!

“Okay, I won’t let you get away! I caught you! Turn on the lantern lights!”

Me and Harukara did as she said.

“Uwa! There’s something!”

A new human existed besides Beelzebub.

Though I do not know whether it is right to express it as a human being. The thing that is certain is that that person is a 15 or 16 year old girl with long gold colored hair and is crying.

“P-ppl-please help me...! I didn’t think a demon would come...!”

The girl said with a trembling voice.

“Before you try crying for help, you should apologize for what you did! You’re saying NOW that extinguishing the lantern and moving the desk around wasn’t an intention to attack us? Well?”

Apparently, it seems like Beelzebub had captured the ghost.

“Master, I am seeing something I should not be seeing for some reason...”

Harukara said while being dumbfounded.

“Perhaps I started hallucinating because I drank too much alcohol...?”

She’s aware of those kind of drinking concerns?

“I can also see it, so I don’t think so.”

“Did Master also drink too much alcohol...?”

Let’s separate ourselves from this alcohol abuser.

“Maybe but... didn’t Beelzebub capture that ghost, and isn’t it able to hide now?”

“Correct.”

Beelzebub descended while binding the ghost’s arms behind her back.

“Spirits usually can’t be seen with the naked eye, but they can reveal themselves if they want. This one thought it’d be a good idea to ask for help and that’s why it revealed itself.”

“Um, Beelzebub-san, then that person is the ghost in question...?”

Even though the ghost can be seen now, Harukara is still hiding behind me.

“Hear the details from the person themselves.”

Asking a ghost if they are a ghost feels kind of strange, but if that isn’t done, we won’t get started.

We had the ghost sit on the chair for the time being.

Sometimes it seemed to become semi-transparent, but that’s probably because it’s a ghost.

“You, your name?”

“It’s Rosary... The spirit of the girl who committed suicide in the house that stood here long ago...”

That child said with a blunt tone.

According to her story, it seems the rumor of a girl committing suicide due to learning she was being sold off to a brothel was true.

“I heard that I was to be married to a noble... From the eyes of commoners, that was a happy thing... I was famed in the town then as a cute and graceful girl... I believed that a dream-like story came true... However, my damn father, that old hag, everyone tricked me...”

Poor thing. This child was even betrayed by her parents...

“There were countless times men from town courted me... If I eloped with someone then... would I have been happy...? It’s too late for that now...”

“I understood the story, but were you really graceful?”

Her wording was rough, and she’s sitting with her legs spread really apart though now.

“Ahh... As time had passed being a ghost, I turned into... a delinquent...”

Having to say that she ‘turned into a delinquent’ from herself was a bit embarrassing for her, and Rosary turned her head away.

“That’s a probable story. A girl of marriage age betrayed by her parents, there should be around that much of a change.”

According to Beelzebub, it seems like it’s not an improbable story.

“This is my territory... Because strangers entered, I’ve been always protecting it... So when you guys came...”

Then the general story ended. I understood the ghost’s true colors, and since that ghost surrendered, the incident is roughly settled.

“So, Rosary was it? What do you want to do from now on?”

“Eh...? What do you mean...?”

I haven’t heard her plans for the future. She was so engrossed with her past only.

“Aah, if that’s the case, shall I exorcise her without having to suffer?”

“That’s rejected!”

Saying such a cruel thing without hesitation, this person!

“Why? Because she has a soul, she feels pain from the past and remains here. If her

reason for existence is extinguished, she can escape from all the pain.”
That’s somehow a Buddhist-like statement. Still, it’s cruel to just extinguish her.

“Well, if that’s the case, you can have the church and clergy give a soul prayer repose and do a purification. After she’s purified, she wouldn’t be confined to this world. Basically entering Nirvana. At first, it sounds like the right thing to do, but...

I embraced Rosary with my own body.

“I-I... d-don’t... w-want... t-to...”

She said it like she was choking.

“I, don’t want to disappear yet...”

Rosary was far more scared and shivering much more than we were before.

Right.

You don’t want to disappear.

“Even though it’s irrational for a spirit to stay in the world, this girl’s saying something selfish.”

Beelzebub is too rational. She easily finds a clear solution for everything.

Well then, Rosary, how about staying here?”

Chapter 57

Ghost Transportation Plan

“Well then. Rosary? How about staying here?”

I said that very normally.

After all, disappearing is scary... so that is her only option.

“I-is it fine to stay? Really...?”

Rosary said that with an attitude that felt more ‘couldn’t believe it’ rather than happy.

“Of course, it would be a different matter if you were to make trouble, but if you’re only staying here, there’s no harm done. You being around won’t add any more expenses. If that’s the case, then why not?”

“Hmm, I guess there’s no harm. If you properly keep in mind that it’s a ghost, then that might be decided on.”

It seems like Beelzebub has no particular objection.

“E-eh... Gh-ghost-san will be in the w-workplace...”

Harukara openly shuddered. Seems like she hasn’t conquered her fear yet. As for me, the moment I saw the ghost’s appearance, my sense of fear faded quickly.

“Isn’t it fine? Rather, if a burglar breaks in, she might be able to drive them out.”

“Th-that might be so but... I can’t calm down since I don’t know whether or not it’s here.”

“Then why don’t you have her stay materialized the entire time?”

“Isn’t that strange?! ALSO!! Any normal person would refuse to work because there’s a ghost around!”

Ah, now that you mention it, that’s right.

‘It’s a fun workplace with a ghost, please come work here’—that’s impossible. This is a workshop, so if the ghost problem itself is not resolved, operations cannot be done. A fundamental solution cannot be reached just by having Harukara getting used to it.

“...As expected. It seems there’ll be trouble with me around... Ghosts are a burden...”

Even Rosary is saving negative things. I want to say that's not true, but it's a fact that she's a trouble as far as the workshop is concerned. We have to settle this problem.

"...That's impossible... I haven't left from where the house stood since I committed suicide..."

Sharusha did say that ghosts bound to a specific place can't move, right?

"There's a way though."

Beelzebub said.

"I know right~? There's no way for such a good method to- wait, there is?!"

"Yeah. The research on spirits have progressed with us demons." Beelzebub said while nodding.

"There's no real troublesome method to it. You just need to transport those spirits that can't move."

If you can't move it, transport it... I understand the theory, but the problem is how are we going to do that?

"Please teach me! Tell me exactly what I need to do?!"

Seems like Rosary is interested as well.

"Well if the spirit possesses a living human being who trusts it, then that human can just go somewhere else. Then, if you've found a suitable place, you just have to tear off the spirit. That spirit won't be able to move from THAT spot then. In short, we use humans as transport."

"Hmm. I just have to possess~. I don't really want to possess though..."

"The action of possession itself can be done by anyone as long as they're a ghost. However, it doesn't mean they can possess just anybody. For example, it's almost guaranteed that it's impossible to possess Azusa. You'll understand if you test it out."

Beelzebub's eyes turned towards Rosary's direction.

"Possession, I have never done it before though..."

"It feels like diving into the other person's head. Try it; even if you fail, you won't disappear."

“I got it. I’m ready when you are so... come at me whenever...”

I closed my eyes, and prepared for it.

“Th-then, let’s go.”

Pashun!

Somehow... As I thought I heard some kind of strumming sound in my head, I saw Rosary breathing wildly in front of me.

“Wh-what’s... th-this...? I-I’m really... t-tired...”

“It’s almost impossible to possess a human with outstanding abilities. And with that, my explanation is done. Oh, even I, who has absolute confidence in my ability would find trying to possess someone like Azusa difficult. In short, it’s difficult to possess someone who isn’t weak-willed and physically drained. In other words—.”

Beelzebub’s eyes turned towards Harukara’s direction.

“Umm... why are you looking at me...?”

“If it’s you, I’m almost certain that you can be possessed.”

“E-eh...!? Aren’t you saying something indirectly rude about me!?”

“It is not indirect. Since you are weak-willed, I think you will have a chance. So you can be possessed.”

“Isn’t that mean in various ways?!”

Rosary slowly approached Harukara’s direction.

“I’m sorry, but I beg of you!”

“No! I’m not good with these paranormal phenomenon! Even if I wake up at night, I don’t go to the toilet!”

“Then I’ll possess you, and go to the toilet for you!”

“That’s a scary thought in itself!!”

While saying such a thing, Rosary plunged into Harukara’s head quite suddenly. Rosary’s appearance disappeared in a flash.

...Is this a success?

“Oh! I can control her. Did this really go well?”

It was Harukara’s voice, but it had a completely different tone from usual. It seems like Rosary has really entered.

“It’s a success! That’s good then!”

“...I can’t seem to calm down with a flesh and blood body in a long time... Also, this body’s gigantic breasts are heavy...”

Harukara(?) heaved her own chest from below, lifting them up with her hands.

“Good, good. What’s left is for her to leave the workshop and everything will turn out good.”

Yeah. Spirits can be transported. However, everything isn’t settled.

“...So, where you want to bring that child?”

I have not decided at all.

“.....There’s only your house, right? You were the first to propose saving her, so take responsibility.”

“I guess so... It’s better than for her to become the lady under the weeping willow...”

[1]

So-

“Rosary, how about living in my house?”

“I-is that okay?... Won’t I be a bother?”

“No. You’ll be welcomed there.”

I held out my hand/

Rosary clumsily move Harukara’s hand and shook mine.

Footnote:

1. Willow trees have been associated with the supernatural in the orient for quite a long time. Japan has quite a lot of lore with willow trees and ghosts, to the point that it’s said a ghost appears where a willow tree is at. As for the lady under the willow tree, this is something that lately stemmed out from the popular culture looking back at their roots.

Chapter 58

Method to Leave is Unknown

Rosary clumsily moved Harukara's hand and shook mine.

"Negotiations are established with this. I'll be in your care!"

I answered with the best possible smile.

After all, Rosary is probably feeling insecure; she most likely 'lived' in isolation for an extremely long time. My mentality should be to be properly polite in dealing with her until the end.

"T-th... Th-thanks..."

Rosary said her thanks while embarrassed.

"My house has a lot of rooms so even if you're a ghost, you should be able to properly live there. I haven't notified everyone else there yet but since everyone's kind, I'm sure we'll manage it one way or another."

—And, for some reason, Beelzebub deeply sighed as if she gave up.

"Good grief... Azusa, you're really a con-artist... You're even harder to handle because you're doing it unconsciously."

"Huh? I don't really understand but... you're amazed?"

"Even if it seems that way, I am praising you in my own way. Even so, seems Azusa's strongest power isn't her cheat-like abilities but probably that instead."

"...I don't feel that I have that ability though..."

"That's why it's scary. You can see the gaps of someone like a cunning person, but you're not actually calculating whatsoever."

What? I didn't properly understand that... but in any case, according to Beelzebub's words it seems I'm doing whatever it is unconsciously. So... there's no way I would actually understand it.

"U-um... Azusa-san, was it...? Can I call you, Ane-san...?" ^[1]

"Well, I do appear like I'm older I guess. Sure. Call me whatever you want."

"I will follow Ane-san for the rest of my life! I'll even put my body on the line to protect

Ane-san!"

"Protect me?... Aren't you already dead?"

I only accepted it as a joke, but—

"No! I can do that if I borrow a body like this!"

Rosalie said while getting psyched up.

She made it seem like Harukara died, but whatever...

And so I brought Rosay, who was still inside Harukara, with me and returned to the residence. Harukara couldn't fly so Beelzebub called on Leica. It was decided that she would ride on the back of that dragon. In addition, after Beelzebub called Leica, she said she was sleepy... and took a nap on the spot.

"Ah. I am the ghost Rosary. Leica aneki, please take care of me!"

"...Having that said with Harukara's face makes me feel uncomfortable... Well the expression in the eyes are different so..."

"I'm only borrowing her body for now. Once we've arrived at your residence, I'll leave her from there."

Before long, we returned to the residence. Leica's ability to fly us all really saved us the trouble.

Farufa and Sharusha have yet to sleep, so they too greeted Rosary.

"I'll be in your care! Nee-san's daughters!"

"Yea, please take care of me okay!"

"This is the first time meeting an existence called a ghost. How intriguing."

My two daughters aren't afraid of the ghost whatsoever. Rather, Farufa and Sharusha are accumulations of the souls of slimes so... their existences might be something akin to ghosts. Both ghosts (yuu-rei) and spirits (sei-rei) both have "souls" (rei) after all. [2]

"I also want to see Rosary's face~. Come out~."

"I want to confirm her appearance with my eyes."

"Alright! Well then, I'll show you my own form- mmm?!"

Rosary's—rather, Harukara's—complexion became awfully pale.

"Hey... Rosay? Did something happen? I'm getting a 'not so good' feeling from your face."

“Nee-san... I possessed her but... How... do I get out?”

It was a very great fundamental problem.

“Eh? You can’t do it easily like opening and closing a door...?”

“N-no. At any rate... I haven’t possessed anyone before... It’s good that I’ve entered, but I don’t know how to get out?”

...Is it like those octopus traps where they can enter easily but cannot leave? [3]

...It would’ve been a funny story, but it’s not.

“If... if it’s left like this, wouldn’t it become something pretty bad?”

If Rosay continued to possess Harukara, Harukara’ll probably get mad. She also has plans for tomorrow after all.

I went to go wake up that Beelzebub who had slept on the dot.

“U~mu... What is it...? I just fell asleep you know...”

“I’d like for Rosary to leave Harukara’s body, but what should I do?”

Perhaps if it’s Beelzebub, I guessed that she would know how to deal with that.

“Umu... what?... You meant she can’t just instantly leave?”

Uwa?! That was my idea too!

“Come! Come! Let’s think together!”

“Stop pulling me! It hurts! It hurts!”

Anyways I brought Beelzebub to Rosasy, who was still stuck in Harukara.

“I can’t leave... It’s like I’m trapped completely in a box...”

“...It might be because their compatibility is too good. I’ve never heard before of a story where someone possessing can’t get out of someone...”

“Hey, will Harukara’s health affected badly from this...?”

“If a different soul from the body stays inside the body for a whole day, then yes it will be bad. At the worst, the body will die.”

That’s extremely bad!

We soon called for a family council at the table immediately.

“Well... apparently, the time limit to get Rosay out of Harukara’s body is 20 hours so... I’d like for everyone to share their wisdom and come up with a solution. Let’s work

together to get through this.

Rosary became even paler than before. The thought of her possibly killing Harukara might be the cause.

“I-I... I don’t want to do something that would kill someone I’m indebted to. If th-that’s going to happen, th-then I’ll just hang myself once more!”

“Don’t do that! If you do that, you’ll REALLY be killing Harukara and not yourself!”

I pacified Rosary.

This seems like we’re going to be up all night thinking about this...

Chapter 59

Harukara Rescue Mission

“Umm, how about this?”

Leica raised her hand first.

“If Rosary’s situation is like she’s packed into a box, wouldn’t she be able to come out if we bang it enough?”

...Can such an old-fashioned, home TV-fixing remedy work?

“Can spirits be beaten out of whoever they possess?”

Beelzebub was also folding her arms, and tilted her head to the side.

“Whatever. Why don’t we just try it out? Better than not trying, right?”

“Azusa-sama! If we carelessly beat Harukara up, she’ll be dead for sure!”

That’s right. Times like these make my seriously high status a problem...

So, it was decided that she would receive a beating from Sharusha.

“Alright. Beat her up gently, but strong enough that Rosary’s soul leaves.”

“The hurdle is high...”

Even I who was giving guidance thought that way.

“Well then... here it goes. Harukara-san, sorry...”

Strike! Strike! Strike!

“Ah! That hurts! It hurts!”

Seems Rosary can also feel pain... The one receiving damage is Harukara though.

“So you feel like you’re coming out?”

“I-it doesn’t feel like it but... Ah! It hurts! It really hurts!”

“Sharusha, stop! You can stop now!”

This time Farufa raised her hand.

“Umm... ok. How about we scare her here? Maybe we can scare her to the point that she gives up the ghost?”

That’s also a classic. Surprisingly, their line of thought is the same as Japan.

“But how are we going to scare her silly?”

“Ah! Farufa has a good idea!”

I unsteadily rose up in the still dark sky with levitation.
Along with me I brought the Rosary-possessed Harukara.

“N-nee-san... F-for the love of G-God, pl-please stop!! Ha-haven’t we a-already re-reached an a-absurd h-h-height?!”

“Well then, you think you can come out?... Still not possible?”

“It-it’s no use... I d-don’t think I c-can co-come out y-yet...”

It seems the fear factor from being this high up is weak.

“It can’t be helped. Moving on to the second phase.”

“...Eh?! Th-there’s a second phase?!”

There wouldn’t be any point if Rosary wasn’t surprised, so I didn’t tell her.

“Alright, it’s time for you to fall~.”

“EHHHHHHHHH?! Pl-please don’t do it!!”

“Don’t worry. Leica will turn into a dragon and catch you... I think.”

“S-SAVE ME!! I’M GOING TO DIE!!”

If she got scared with just this, maybe she’ll come out. Seems this might actually work.

“Sorry. Harukara’s life depends on it. Endure it.”

Then, I let go of her hand.

“UWAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!”

After a bit of tremendous wailing, I could hear Leica’s voice say “You’re safe”. I slowly descended and assessed the situation.

“So how’d it go? Did she finally come out?”

“Ane-san... I’m still in here... I thought I was going to die again...”

Rosary slumped on top of the dragon-form Leica with a pale face. She’s still in Harukara’s body.

“Seems this is also a failure...”

After that, we kept on with the trial and error. For example, at first morning light, we called for the village’s clergyman and had her receive an exorcism.

“AAAAAH!!! I’m dying! I’m really going to die again here!!”

Rosary was in danger of being exorcised instead of just leaving Harukara’s body so we stopped that.

As we were still thinking of solutions, it was nearly noontime.

Beelzebub told me that, according to her, “If Rosary doesn’t come out soon, Harukara will be in danger of having bad influences manifest. This all depends on the strength of Harukara’s soul.”

“We’re almost out of time... but we haven’t slept yet. Our minds are becoming dull because of that. This is bad...”

Leica was already repeatedly bobbing her head. Farufa and Sharusha were already at their limits of drowsiness so they already went to sleep... There’s no way for us to find a solution like this...

“I’m... also sleepy... However... if I nod off here... Harukara will die... Wait...”

I may be onto something.

“Leica? Whenever Harukara drinks alcohol, she always drinks herself dead drunk, right?”

“Yes. She does have that quirk.”

“What if... if we get the Harukara right now with two souls to sleep... maybe only Rosary’s soul will be put to sleep. Won’t something like Harukara switching places with her happen then?”

I didn’t have any scientific basis for this. It was only a suggestion.

“There might be some merit in trying this method where we put her to sleep.”

Therefore, we had Rosary, who was using Harukara’s body, rapidly drink alcohol.

“I-I haven’t ever drunk alcohol before though...”

“Don’t worry! It’s Harukara’s body after all, so it’s fine. Drink to your heart’s content!”

Harukara almost always falls dead drunk on her fourth cup. Since she pulled an all-nighter though, she passed out right there after finishing the third cup.

We watched as Rosary in Harukara’s body collapsed.

Before long, Harukara groggily woke up.

“Ugh... my head... I don’t recall drinking though... Also... it’s really bright around... Is it noon? What’s going on?”

“It’s Harukara!” “She’s back!” “Oh! It worked!”

“Ehh...? Why is everyone so happy even though I just woke up after being drunk...?... Come to think of it, my body feels really heavy. Rather... I feel that something’s stuck to me...”

Yeah. Stuck is probably the right word...

“This... If Harukara’s consciousness is stronger than before, it might be alright. It’ll be hard to possess her if she’s like this.”

“But still, what should we do?”

“Just leave it to me! I’ve got a sure-fire magic spell that’ll wake one up to the point they’d be angry!”

It seems like Beelzebub has a plan. She immediately yanked on Harukara’s hand.

“Alright, come with me. Come on, hurry up!”

“Eh? Wait... over there is... Isn’t that the bathroom? Why? The bath water is... isn’t it already water?” ^[1]

“Like I said, it is fine!”

Beelzebub grabbed hold of Harukara, and tossed her right into the bath.

SPLASH!!!

A magnificent spray of water rose, and a soaked Harukara came out.

“Wh-what was that for?! Come on!! I was already wide awake!!”

“Seems so. Looks like she was able to properly separate.”

Behind Harukara, the transparent body of Rosary can be see.

“Eh... I’m, out...?”

Rosary mumbled absent-mindedly.

“Hooray! The separation operation is a success!”

Chapter 60

New Family Member is a Ghost

As a result of what happened, when Rosary's soul was put to sleep and Harukara's soul reappeared. This method of making Harukara's consciousness stronger was a success.

When she passed out drunk, Rosary's consciousness that dominant was replaced by Harukara's. Once that happened, it was now the matter of making a situation where two souls can't be in the same body.

It was originally Harukara's body so as expected, Harukara's soul would remain while Rosary's soul which became unconscious was the one that came out.

Once you knew the theory behind it you wouldn't be surprised however we didn't completely understand the process so we were fairly anxious. First off, we weren't able to make the assumption that Rosary's consciousness had receded into the background.

"Before we do that method again, I'd like to at least investigate this method: if we somehow got Rosary to sleep in a bed, we could have possibly managed to wake up Harukara's consciousness. As I thought... working an all-nighter isn't good; your overall quality drops."

"However, when I was summoned over here, if I did not emerge from the bath, the last idea might have no appeared. The great achievement of the injured.

.

Beelzebub had a triumphant look on her face. Well, since she actually did manage to pull off something worthy of that look, it was alright.

With this, the incident was settled safely but——

"Everyone, I assume we're all tired from this, so I think we should all sleep until 5 in the afternoon. We can take care of everything else once we've rested up..."

Everyone took my advice and obediently went to sleep in their own beds only to quickly wake up in the evening.

“Uhm, once again, I will introduce her. This is Rosary, the ghost that will start living in this house from today.”

Everyone gathered around the living room table and gave their self-introductions. Even though Rosary is a ghost, she was able to sit on a chair. She can make herself appear in our vision if she wills it and right now she was visible to everyone.

“I’m Rosary. I am sorry to have troubled everyone earlier! Please be friendly with me!”

Everyone welcome Rosary with applause. Even with all that’s been said and done, the members in this household are proficient at adapting. Soon, Rosary should be able to live here without any discomfort.

“By the way, are you able to move around within the house?”

“Yes. I can move to anywhere within the grounds, including the garden. Actually, I can even move past the garden. I can probably manage to go anywhere now.”

Eh? I thought you can’t move yourself from a haunted building?

“I think this is because of her fixation with the with the land she died in got resolved when she was moved. Right now she isn’t a ghost anymore, just a normal spirit.”

Well, indeed this place has nothing to do with Rosary’s past grudge.

“That’s pretty convenient. Well then, about your room... you can use the free room on the second floor of the Log House area. Even though I did say use, you are a ghost. Just tell me later if you want to move some things in and out of that room to suit your taste.

“I understand! Thank you very much Nee-san! I will never forget this kindness!”

For a person who is already dead, I’m not sure how much power the phrase “I will never forget” actually has but, it can’t be a bad thing either.

“Umm, this might be a little rude but... would there be any change in the cooking duty rotation?”

Leica’s so diligent. She’d definitely be a Class Representative-type.

“Well, I don’t think Rosary can cook in the first place, right?”

“Actually... I am able to do that.”

A cup on the table started to float gently.

“I can actually cook if I move a knife of a pan like this. However, I can’t guarantee the taste though...”

"I see... It would be alright if you could do it but... Hmm... is it really necessary to make it an obligation?"

I feel a little bit uneasy about this.

"Oka-san, you usually require someone to go on cooking and cleaning duties because they do eat and things get messy as they live their daily life. However since Rosary is a ghost, she can't eat or make a mess. I think it'd be weird actually to make her do all that, Oka-san."

Although Sharusha said it in a formal manner, that is precisely the reason why I was feeling uneasy. Because she is able to do those things, is it really necessary for Rosary to do them?

"Neesan, what you said doesn't make sense! Please! Let me do those and other chores!"

Rosary stood up. To be more precise, she floated up.

"I'm going to live in this house from now on. Even though I am just a ghost, it doesn't change the fact that I will be living here! Since that's so, I must be able to repay my gratitude for that!"

Rosary's eyes were burning with such passion.

"I'm sorry Rosary, I misunderstood. Well, we will let you do the things you can do, alright?"

If someone tells you that you have no obligation to do anything, you would probably feel anxious rather than be happy about it. You'd definitely be concerned. You can't just make a housemate feel anxious.

Yes, Nee-san! Please, take care of me! Also to my other senpais, if there's any trouble please let me know! There might be something I can do because I am a ghost!"

"Yes, best regards~!"

"Also, I would like to ask your opinions unique to being a spirit."

I wonder if Sharusha intends to earnestly study spirits and write something.

"Rosary too – if there is anything that you don't know, please ask us."

“Umm... please don’t possess me too much... okay...?”

Well, Hurkara’s life WAS involved in this incident... However, ghosts are scary because they usually can’t be seen. With Rosary making her figure visible, Harukara will surely come around to her.

“If I get new materials relating to spirits again I’ll bring them here and do some more research. Well... it’s not a pressing matter for now.”

“We were really in your care this time Beelzebub. I’m sorry to drag you into this even though you’re so busy.”

“Well, this incident was resolved because I was here, so you were right to call me.”

Next time, I’ll prepare something for Beelzebub. We’ve been in her care many times now.

“Alright then, since that’s over and done with... in commemoration of gaining a new family member, why don’t we have a party!”

However, before I was able to leave my seat, caught sight of Rosary.

Rosary was crying. You could even say it was at the level of wailing.

“I was betrayed by my parents... T-to be cherished by everyone whom I don’t even have any blood relations with... I-I’m deeply moved...”

“Well, when you’ve lived for a long time... you can actually experience happiness such as like this eh? I’m so happy for you.”

“...Don’t you mean when you’ve been dead for a long time?”

Beelzebub just had to make a tsukkomi. (TL: Tsukkomi = retort.)



PDF by: traitor#ZEN